



## Health Alert: Possible measles exposures in Spokane County

February 23, 2024

*Information shared from the Washington State Department of Health (WA DOH) Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) Program.*

**A case of measles has been identified in a Spokane County resident; Rash onset date 2/15/2024. This case is not connected to recent cases in SW Washington.**

### Current Situation in Washington

A case of measles was confirmed this week at Washington State Public Health Laboratories (WA PHL). The case occurred in a Spokane County resident with a rash onset date of February 15, 2024. This adult was exposed to measles during international travel and became contagious during their return travel to Washington. Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) is actively implementing preventive measures for measles and monitoring the health of those who have likely been exposed. Please note that the measles cluster identified earlier this year in Clark and Wahkiakum Counties has ended, and this case is unrelated.

SRHD has identified the following public locations, dates, and times where potential exposures to measles may have occurred in Washington:

- **Sunday, Feb. 11 through Monday, Feb. 12:**
  - 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.: Spokane International Airport, Concourse B
- **Monday, Feb. 12:**
  - 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Deer Park Library, 208 S. Forest Ave., Deer Park, WA
  - 4-8:30 p.m.: Rozy'z Hot Shotz, 617 S. Fir Ave., Deer Park, WA
  - Evening hours: Taco Bell, 807 S. Main Ave., Deer Park, WA
- **Tuesday, Feb. 13:**
  - 5:30-7:30 p.m.: Creekside Kenpo Karate, 3506 Eloika Rd., Deer Park, WA
- **Thursday, Feb. 15:**
  - 4:30-7:15 p.m.: Horizon Credit Union, 900 S. Main St., Deer Park, WA

In addition to the above, the CDC Division of Global Migration Health (DGMH) also identified 11 Washington residents that may have been exposed to measles on a February 11th flight. Relevant local health jurisdictions have been notified.

Health officials at SRHD have been contacting people who were at impacted locations to alert them of potential exposure to measles. SRHD also issued a [press release](#) with more details, including additional public exposure locations outside of Washington.

## Actions Requested

- **Please consider measles in patients who:**
  - Present with febrile rash illness and the “three Cs”: cough, coryza (runny nose) or conjunctivitis (pink eye)
  - Recently traveled internationally or were exposed to someone with confirmed measles or were present at the locations and times listed above.
- **Anticipated symptom onset dates for people linked to one of the Spokane exposure locations: Between February 18 and March 8, 2024**
- **When symptoms and exposure risk indicate, complete the [Suspect Measles Assessment Form](#) and, if testing is indicated, immediately notify Skagit County Public Health via the 24 hour on call phone at 360-770-8852.**
- If measles testing is confirmed via public health contact with WA PHL, follow specimen collection guidance.
  - Preferred specimens are Nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs and urine specimens.
  - Due to a national shortage of measles IgM test kits, serum specimens will be submitted to CDC if IgM testing is approved.
  - Measles IgG testing continues to be available at WA PHL.

## Prevention through Vaccination

- Check the MMR vaccination status of every patient and strongly recommend vaccination for unvaccinated children or adults according to [ACIP recommendations](#).
- Link patients to a vaccine location if you are unable to vaccinate. Refer adult patients to their preferred vaccinating pharmacy or have them call Public Health for bilingual assistance at 360-416-1500.

**Thank you for your partnership in keeping Skagit County Healthy!**



### Skagit County Public Health

#### Communicable Disease Division

Business hours phone: (360) 416-1500

**After hours urgent provider line: (360) 770-8852**

Confidential fax: (360) 416-1515

[communicabledisease@co.skagit.wa.us](mailto:communicabledisease@co.skagit.wa.us)

[www.skagitcounty.net/health/diseases](http://www.skagitcounty.net/health/diseases)