

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

General Information

What is measles?

Measles is a highly contagious viral illness that spreads through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

How serious is measles?

Measles can cause serious complications, especially in young children, pregnant individuals, and people with weakened immune systems.

Is this the first case in Tooele County?

Yes. This is the first confirmed measles case in Tooele County.

Exposure & Risk

Was my child exposed?

Parents of students identified as potentially exposed have been notified directly. If you did not receive notification, your child was not identified as part of the exposure group.

How long after exposure do symptoms appear?

Symptoms can begin up to 21 days after exposure.

When was the possible exposure at school?

The confirmed case attended school while infectious on February 9 and 10.

Symptoms

What are the early symptoms?

- Fever
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes

What does the measles rash look like?

The rash typically:

- Starts at the hairline and behind the ears
 - Spreads downward
 - Appears red on light skin
 - May appear darker or purple on dark skin
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What To Do If Sick

What should I do if I think I have measles?

- Stay home.
 - Call your healthcare provider before going in.
 - This helps prevent exposing others.
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Vaccination

Does the MMR vaccine work?

Yes. Two doses of the MMR vaccine provide very strong protection against measles.

What if I've only had one dose?

Contact a pharmacist or healthcare provider to discuss receiving the second dose.

What if I don't have a healthcare provider?

Call TCHD Community Health Offices at 435-277-2310 for assistance.

Is the MMR vaccine safe?

The MMR vaccine has been used for decades and has been shown to be safe and effective.

Community Impact

Is there an outbreak in Tooele County?

At this time, one confirmed case has been identified. TCHD continues to monitor the situation closely.

Where can I get updated information about measles in Utah?

For the most up-to-date statewide information, visit the measles response page from the Utah Department of Health and Human Services:

<https://epi.utah.gov/measles-response/>