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Measles Update #1

Attention: Physicians, Hospitals, CNE, ER Manager, ER Physician, Infection Control Practitioners, Occupational Health Professionals, Community Health Centres, Walk-In Urgent Care Clinic, Nurse Practitioner, Ontario Health, Ontario Health Teams, Midwives, Family Health Team, Indigenous Healthcare & Community, Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, Neighbouring Health Units, Paramedic Services, Corrections

Date: March 8, 2024

As of March 4, 2024, there have been five laboratory-confirmed cases of measles reported in Ontario. Four cases were associated with travel (i.e. acquired measles outside of Canada) and one case occurred in an individual with an unknown source of exposure (i.e. no travel history or no epidemiological link with a confirmed case). To date we have not had any confirmed cases of measles reported in Simcoe Muskoka.

Public Health Ontario (PHO) has released a new resource, **Measles: Information for Health Care Providers**. This resource outlines considerations and information to assist providers with timely identification and management of individuals suspected to have measles and measles prevention through immunization.

It also provides health care providers with important information on:

- Immunization (including maintaining up-to-date measles immunizations and considerations related to travel)
- Laboratory testing
- Infection prevention and control practices.

For more information, visit [PHO's website](#) or contact ivpd@oahpp.ca.

SMDHU continues to recommend the following:

- **Vaccinating patients** who are not up-to-date, especially those planning to travel, including infants 6 months of age to 11 months of age who will be traveling to areas with increased measles transmission.
- Ensure that **you and your staff are immune to measles**.
- **Immediately report** all suspect or confirmed cases of measles infection to SMDHU at 705-721-7520 Extension 8809 during work hours (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday) or after hours 1-888-225-7851.

Additional information can also be found in our previous [Public Health Alert from February 26, 2024](#).

