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First Case of Measles in Simcoe Muskoka

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 13, 2024

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) is investigating a **laboratory confirmed measles case reported on March 12, 2024 with an unknown acquisition source**. The case is an adult with two documented doses of MMR vaccine. The case did not travel during the period of acquisition and denies attending any exposure settings linked to any of the recent confirmed cases reported in Ontario.

Symptoms started with onset of runny nose, fever, myalgia, photophobia and sore throat on March 5, 2024 followed by rash on March 8th.

The period of communicability is from March 4 to March 12, 2024.

Members of the public may have been exposed at the following locations:

- Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (25 King Street, Cookstown) – March 4, 2024 8:30am-6:30pm
- Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (25 King Street, Cookstown) – March 5, 2024 8:30am -2:30pm
- Walmart Superstore (30 Dunham Drive, Alliston) – March 5, 2024 12pm-3pm
- Sobeys (247 Mill Street, Angus) – March 7, 2024 9am-12pm
- Queens Medical Health Centre (238 Barrie Street, Thornton) - March 7, 2024 8:30am-12pm
- Moon Flour Bakery (4 Massey Street, Angus) – March 8, 2024 1130am-2:30pm
- Freshii (285 Mill Street, Unit #3, Angus) – March 8, 2024 1130am-2:30pm
- Collingwood General Marine Hospital, Emergency Department (459 Hume Street, Collingwood) - March 8, 2024 4pm-6:30pm

Symptoms

Health care providers should remain alert to patients who present with the following key [symptoms](#) of measles:

- Fever ($\geq 38.3^{\circ}$ C) AND
- Cough/coryza/conjunctivitis AND
- Generalized maculopapular rash
- and have recently traveled and/or are unvaccinated
- And/or identify attendance at one of the exposure locations above



Testing

If your patient meets the above criteria, please order the following tests:

- [Measles PCR -nasopharyngeal \(NP\) /throat swab and urine specimen](#) - NP swab (pink-coloured medium) and urine (50 mls), for measles PCR AND
- [Measles Serology](#) – blood test (IgG and IgM)
- **It is imperative that the PCR tests are also ordered as the serology by itself is usually not sufficient to rule in or out measles in either vaccinated or unvaccinated patients. Contact public health to discuss specimen transport to the Public Health Ontario Lab (PHOL).**

Isolate

Promptly isolate any patient with suspect or confirmed measles in a single room with negative air flow (airborne infection isolation room), if available. If such a room is not available, please follow all measles [Infection Prevention and Control](#) recommendations including allowing ~2 hour of air exchange before another patient or unprotected staff enter the room.

Report

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.

More information:

- [Measles Toolkit for Health Professionals – Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit](#)
- [Measles Information for Clinicians \(publichealthontario.ca\)](#)
- [For Healthcare Professionals - Diagnosing and Treating Measles | CDC](#)