



City of Austin Health and Human Services Department



Measles Identification, Prevention and Reporting Guidelines

Measles is a highly contagious disease that is spread from person-to-person through the air. Measles virus can remain infectious in air droplets or on surfaces for up to two hours.

All children should get two doses of MMR (measles-mumps-rubella) vaccine starting at one year of age. Some teens also may need MMR vaccine if they didn't get two doses when they were younger. Childcare centers and schools are encouraged to review childhood immunizations to ensure their children are up to date with vaccinations.

Measles Symptoms	Measles Rash
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cold-like symptoms – such as a runny nose, watery eyes, swollen eyelids and sneezing• Red eyes and sensitivity to light• High temperature (fever), which may peak at around 104°F (40°C)• Tiredness, irritability, and a general lack of energy• Aches and pains• Dry cough• Tiny greyish-white spots in the mouth and throat• Loss of appetite	<p>Measles rash appears two to four days <i>after</i> initial symptoms.</p> <p>Red flat spots usually start behind the ear and spread outwards to the head and down the body.</p> <p>The spots quickly get bigger and often join together.</p>

The City of Austin offers low/no cost immunizations to uninsured and Medicaid children. Call Shots for Tots at (512) 972-5520 for more information.

Reporting to the City of Austin

If you suspect someone has the measles please contact the Epidemiology and Health Statistics Unit at 512-972-5555 (available 24/7). Please *DO NOT* wait until you receive lab results.

Be prepared to provide the following information:

- Signs and symptoms (including fever)
- Vaccination status of patient
- Recent travel history

Persons suspected of having measles should stay home and consult with a physician or health care professional. They should be isolated and/or remain at home until released with a doctor's note.

Information adapted from:

<http://www.cdc.gov>, <http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4314.pdf>, <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Measles/Pages/Symptoms.aspx>