

May 14, 2019

Confirmed Measles in Pierce and King Counties

Actions Requested

- Consider measles infection in patients with compatible symptoms, including prodrome of fever, cough, coryza and conjunctivitis lasting 2–4 days; generalized maculopapular rash that usually begins on the face; Koplik spots may appear on buccal mucosa 1–2 days prior to rash.
- Assess patients with measles symptoms for local exposures (see attachment), domestic or international travel to areas where measles outbreaks are occurring, or potential exposure to a confirmed measles case.
- Instruct reception/triage staff to identify and isolate patients who present with symptoms of possible measles.
- Instruct patients with measles symptoms to wear a mask covering the nose and mouth.
- Keep patients with measles symptoms away from patient waiting rooms—consider seeing them as the last patient of the day if possible.
- Room patients with measles symptoms immediately and close the door. Do not use exam rooms for 2 hours after a patient with measles symptoms is discharged.
- Only staff with documented immunity to measles should be allowed to enter the patient's room.
- Collect specimens on patients with suspected measles:
 - Nasopharyngeal swab (preferred respiratory specimen) for PCR and virus isolation
 - Urine (at least 50 ml) for PCR and virus isolation
 - Serum (at least 1 cc) for measles IgM

For questions, please contact our Communicable Disease staff at 360-728-2235.

Background

Measles is a highly contagious and potentially severe disease that causes fever, rash, cough, and red, watery eyes. It mainly spreads through the air after a person with measles coughs or sneezes. Measles symptoms begin seven to 21 days after exposure. Measles is contagious from approximately four days before the rash appears through four days after the rash appears. People can spread measles before they have the characteristic measles rash.

Currently, the Kitsap Public Health District has received no reports of measles in Kitsap County. A Pierce County man in his 40's has been diagnosed with measles. The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department and Public Health-Seattle & King County are investigating this jointly as he spent a significant amount of time at the Sea-Tac airport. It is unclear where this patient was exposed to the virus. The onset of his rash was May 10/11, so he was exposed sometime between April 19 and May 1. Subsequently, this patient spent time working at Sea-Tac during the infectious period. Exposures in the community as a result of this case occurred between May 6 and May 11. **We would expect cases from these exposures to occur between May 13 and June 1, 2019.** As much of his exposure period was at Sea-Tac airport, many of the exposed would have completed air travel to destinations within and outside the United States. Please advise your providers to be on alert for cases of measles that may have had the any of the exposures (see attachment).

Resources

1. Attachment: New Measles Exposures in Pierce and King Counties as of May 12, 2019 5:54pm
2. Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department news release:
<https://www.tpchd.org/Home/Components/News/News/126/286?backlist=%2fhome>
3. Public Health - Seattle & King County news release:
<https://publichealthinsider.com/2019/05/12/new-measles-exposures-in-pierce-and-king-counties/>
4. Washington State Department of Health measles information:
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/IllnessandDisease/Measles>
5. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention measles information: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/>

New Measles exposures in Pierce and King Counties

Post Date:05/12/2019 5:54 p.m.

Date	Time	Location
May 6 – 10, 2019	5:30 – 8 a.m.	Sea-Tac International Airport Main parking garage 8 th floor, far southern garage elevator, 4 th level breezeway to escalator, terminal to baggage claim area
May 6 – 10, 2019	2 – 5 p.m.	Sea-Tac International Airport Baggage claim area to escalator, 4 th level breezeway, far southern garage elevator, 8 th floor parking garage
May 6, 2019	5 – 7:15 p.m.	Orting Transmission 130 Corrin Ct. NW., Orting
May 6, 2019	6 – 10 p.m.	Orting High School, Orting City Planning Meeting 320 Washington Ave. N., Orting.
May 7, 2019	10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Sea-Tac International Airport General area around gate A10 of Sea-Tac Airport
May 7, 2019	5 – 8 p.m.	Orting Transmission 130 Corrin Ct. NW., Orting
May 7, 2019	7:30 – 10 p.m.	Orting High School Orting Junior Dance Team Banquet 320 Washington Ave. N. Orting
May 9, 2019	10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Sea-Tac International Airport General area around gate A10 of Sea-Tac Airport
May 9, 2019	4 – 7:30 p.m.	Discount Tire 19815 S. Prairie Rd. E., Bonney Lake.
May 9, 2019	6 – 9:30 p.m.	Skookum Archery 11209 Shaw Rd. E., Puyallup.
May 10, 2019	6:30 – 8:40 a.m.	76 Gas Station Market 2841 S 188th St, SeaTac
May 10, 2019	3:15 – 5:45 pm & 6:30 – 9 p.m.	Orting Transmission 130 Corrin Ct. NW., Orting
May 11, 2019	8 – 10:30 a.m.	Sound Family Medicine Bonney Lake Walk-in Clinic 10004 204 Ave., Bonney Lake.