



This is an official  
MSDH MSG/INFO

**MESSAGE ID:** MSHAN-20190506-00146-MSG/INFO (Medical Message/Info Service)  
**RECIPIENTS:** All Healthcare Providers & Hospitals - Statewide  
**DATE:** Monday, May 06, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** MSDH Recommendations for Measles: Identify, Isolate, & Call

Measles is an acute viral respiratory illness. It is characterized by a prodrome of fever (as high as 105°F) and malaise, cough, runny nose, and conjunctivitis - followed 3 to 7 days later by a maculopapular rash. The rash usually appears about 14 days after a person is exposed. The rash spreads from the head to the trunk to the lower extremities. Patients are considered to be contagious from 4 days before to 4 days after the rash appears.

**Clinical Case Definition:** Rash **AND** fever of 101°F or higher **AND** cough, runny nose (coryza), or conjunctivitis

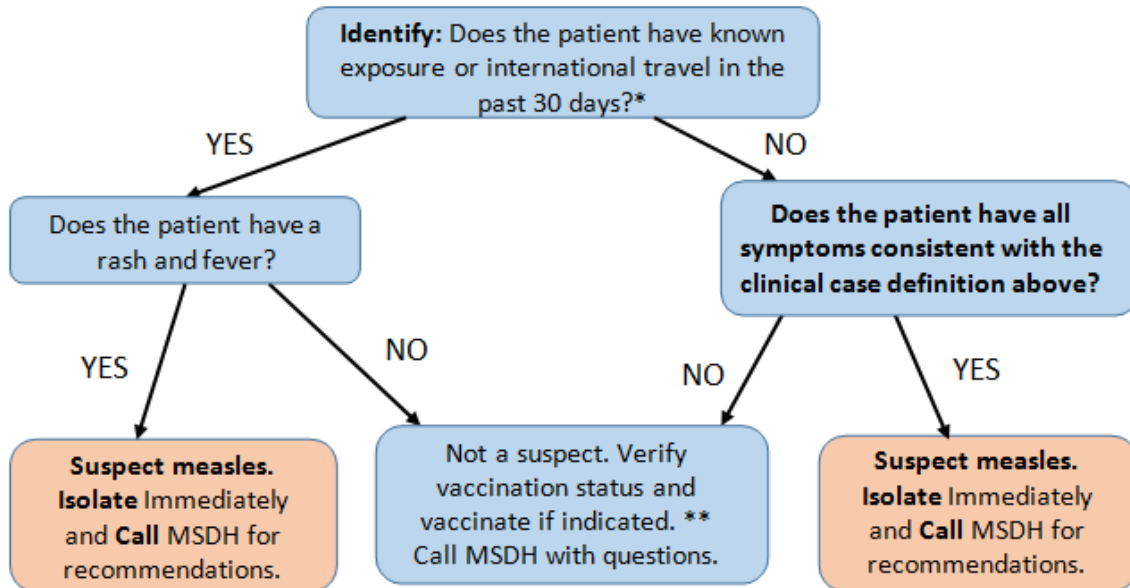
With the numbers of measles cases in the US increasing, Mississippi providers should consider the possibility of measles when evaluating susceptible patients with an acute febrile rash illness. The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) Office of Epidemiology (601-576-7725) is available to assist providers with any questions or concerns they may have about specific patients or situations. While the attached table and algorithm may be useful in determining the patient’s risk of measles, they are not all inclusive. Please contact MSDH if you need additional guidance.

**Should you consider measles?**

<b>Step 1: VACCINE</b>	When a patient presents with <b>fever</b> and a <b>rash</b> , determine the patient’s vaccination status.
<b>Step 2: IDENTIFY</b>	<p><b>Consider measles if the patient:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has known exposure in the past 30 days</li> <li>• Meets the clinical case definition above</li> </ul> <p><b>Measles is less likely if the patient:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not have cough, coryza, or conjunctivitis</li> <li>• Is vaccinated appropriately for age</li> <li>• Has no known exposure</li> </ul>
<b>Step 3: ISOLATE</b>	If you suspect measles, immediately place the patient in airborne isolation in a negative pressure room.
<b>Step 4: CALL</b>	Immediately notify MSDH of any suspected measles cases by calling 601-576-7725 (601-576-7400 after hours, holidays and weekends). The MSDH Office of Epidemiology is available for questions and consultations regarding measles identification and testing.



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Measles is a Class 1A reportable condition in Mississippi requiring immediate reporting to the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) within 24 hours of first knowledge or suspicion. In addition to the above guidance, MSDH recommends:

- Notify MSDH of any suspected measles cases by calling **601-576-7725 (601-576-7400** after hours, holidays and weekends). The MSDH Office of Epidemiology is available for questions and consultations regarding measles identification and testing.
- Do **NOT** send suspected cases to the local health department.
- If it is necessary to refer or send a suspected case to the hospital or ER, notify MSDH **prior** to transfer **AND** notify the facility **prior** to sending the patient so that they can ensure appropriate isolation measures are taken upon the patient's arrival.

\*<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/>

\*\*<https://www.cdc.gov/measles/hcp/index.html>



***Alerting Message Specification Settings***

**Originating Agency:** Mississippi State Department of Health  
**Alerting Program:** MSDH Medical **Message/Info Service**  
**Message Identifier:** MSHAN-20190506-00146- **MSG/INFO**  
**Program (HAN) Type:** **Medical Message/Info Service**  
**Status (Type):** Actual ()  
**Message Type:** Alert  
**Reference:** MSHAN-00146  
**Severity:** Unknown  
**Acknowledgement:** No  
**Sensitive:** Not Sensitive  
**Message Expiration:** Undetermined  
**Urgency:** Undetermined  
**Delivery Time:** 600 minutes

**Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings**

**Originating Agency:** A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.

**Alerting Program:** The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.

**Message Identifier:** A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (**ALT=Health Alert**, **ADV=Health Advisory**, **UPD=Health Update**, **MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**)).

**Program (HAN) Type:** Categories of Health Alert Messages.

**Health Alert:** Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

**Health Advisory:** Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

**Health Update:** Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

**Health Info Service:** Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

**Status (Type):**

Actual: Communication or alert refers to a live event  
Exercise: Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert  
Test: Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded



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**Message Type:**

Alert: Indicates an original Alert  
Update: Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded  
Cancel: Indicates prior alert has been cancelled  
Error: Indicates prior alert has been retracted

**Reference:** For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

**Severity:**

Extreme: Extraordinary threat to life or property  
Severe: Significant threat to life or property  
Moderate: Possible threat to life or property  
Minor: Minimal threat to life or property  
Unknown: Unknown threat to life or property

**Acknowledgement:** Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

**Sensitive:**

Sensitive: Indicates the alert contains sensitive content  
Not Sensitive: Indicates non-sensitive content

**Message Expiration:** Undetermined.

**Urgency:** Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

**Delivery Time:** Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).