

News Release

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Kane County Health Department Confirms Measles Case

The Kane County Health Department (KCHD) is reporting a confirmed case of measles in a Kane County resident. KCHD is working with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to gather additional information, identify and contact individuals who may have been exposed, and provide education about measles and the importance of vaccination.

"Our priority is identifying people who may have been exposed, making sure they receive timely guidance and providing the community with accurate information as the investigation continues," said Michael Isaacson, KCHD Executive Director. "This disease is preventable, and the measles vaccine is very effective. The best thing someone can do to protect themselves and their children is to make sure they are up to date on their MMR vaccines."

KCHD Response

The Kane County Health Department is:

- Investigating the confirmed case and potential exposure locations.
- Identifying and notifying people who may have been exposed.
- Coordinating with IDPH and other public health partners.
- Providing guidance regarding immunity, monitoring and quarantine.
- Monitoring for additional cases.

How to Protect Yourself from Measles

- The best way to prevent measles is vaccination. The measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine is highly effective at preventing measles, and two doses are approximately 97% effective.
- Check your vaccination records to determine whether you have received the MMR vaccine or have other evidence of immunity.
 - People born in 1957 or later who don't have vaccination records should talk with their healthcare provider; depending on the person and circumstances, the provider may recommend MMR vaccination or evaluation for evidence of immunity.
 - Contact your healthcare provider if you are unsure whether you are protected against measles.

- You may be able to view your records on [Vax Verify](#).
- You may also be able to obtain records from your previous healthcare provider, school, employer or the state immunization information system where your vaccinations were given.
- Follow any quarantine instructions provided by KCHD or another public health authority.
- Monitor for symptoms for 21 days after a potential exposure.
- If you develop symptoms and believe you may have been exposed to measles, call your healthcare provider before going to a medical office, urgent care or emergency department. This allows the healthcare facility to make appropriate arrangements to protect other patients and healthcare workers.

Know the Symptoms

Measles is a highly contagious respiratory illness that can spread easily from person to person. Symptoms may include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red or watery eyes
- Rash

The rash typically begins on the face and spreads to other parts of the body. Measles can cause serious complications, particularly in young children and other people at increased risk.

Because the investigation is ongoing, information may change as additional contacts and potential exposure locations are identified.

For the most current information about measles in Kane County, visit:

<https://www.kanehealth.com/Pages/Measles-Update.aspx>

For questions, contact the Kane County Health Department at 630-208-3801.