



County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

David Luchini, Director
Dr. Rais Vohra, Interim Health Officer

NEWS RELEASE

Public Health Communication
(559) 259-1798 or (559) 974-2302

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 20, 2023

Confirmed Measles Cases in Fresno County

FRESNO, CA- The Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH) has confirmed two cases of measles in a single household in Fresno County. The FCDPH is working with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Madera County Department of Public Health to take steps to contact individuals who may have been exposed. Although the risk to the general population is low from this current outbreak, health officials are urging residents to make sure they are up to date on their measles vaccinations, particularly before traveling with young children to [countries that still have measles outbreaks](#).

Measles is a highly contagious and serious disease that is easily contracted by breathing in air in a room which has been shared with a person who is infected with measles. Common symptoms include fever, cough, runny nose, conjunctivitis (red eyes) and a rash which usually starts on the face and then spreads down the body. People who have symptoms of measles should stay at home, verify their immunization status, then contact their doctor by telephone for instructions. It is also recommended that people with measles symptoms wear a mask, preferably a KN95 or N95 and call your doctor before entering a health care facility. Children younger than five, pregnant women and those who are immunocompromised are at high risk of needing to be hospitalized or dying from pneumonia and neurologic complications due to measles. There is no specific antiviral treatment for measles.

The best prevention measure for measles is to get vaccinated. The measles vaccine is given as part of the MMR vaccine, which also protects against mumps and rubella. The MMR vaccine is given in two doses, the first dose at 12-15 months of age and the second dose at 4-6 years of age. If a person is infected with measles, the symptoms will be far less severe if the person is vaccinated.

“These cases are reminders of the critical role of vaccinations in protecting the community,” says Fresno County Health Officer Dr. Rais Vohra. “The best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from measles is to get vaccinated. We urge all parents to please work with your pediatrician or contact the health department to help get your child up-to-date on vaccinations.”

The FCDPH reminds all county residents that if you are sick, please stay home from work, school sports activities, and other public places until you recover. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze and wash your hands with soap and water. Together, we can keep our community safe.

For travel related health information, please visit: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>. For additional information on measles, visit: www.fcdph.org/measles.

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Promotion, preservation and protection of the community's health

1221 Fulton Street /P. O. Box 11867, Fresno, CA 93775

(559) 600-3550 FAX (559) 600-7606

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