



### **Important: Increase in Reported Measles Cases - United States 2014**

The National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is requesting all immunization programs share the following information with all health care providers and infection control specialists:

This year, the United States is having more reported cases of measles than usual. Many health care providers in the United States have never seen a patient with measles and may not recognize the signs and symptoms. Health care providers need to be more alert than ever to the possibility of measles.

Health care providers should consider measles in patients who

- present with febrile rash illness and clinically compatible measles symptoms [cough, coryza (or runny nose) or conjunctivitis (pink eye)],
- recently traveled internationally or were exposed to someone who recently travelled
- have not been vaccinated against measles

Health care providers should also consider measles when evaluating patients for other febrile rash illnesses, including Dengue and Kawasaki's Disease.

If you suspect measles, do the following immediately:

1. Promptly isolate patients to avoid disease transmission.
2. Immediately report the suspect measles case to their health department.
3. Obtain specimens for testing from patients with suspected measles, including viral specimens.

Additional guidance for health care providers can be found at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/measles/hcp/index.html>. Also, see CDC's measles surveillance guidance:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/surv-manual/chpt07-measles.html>.

Section 381.0031(1,2), Florida Statutes provides that "Any practitioner, licensed in Florida to practice medicine, osteopathic medicine, chiropractic, naturopathy, or veterinary medicine, who diagnoses or suspects the existence of a disease of public health significance shall immediately report the fact to the Department of Health." The FDOH county health departments serve as the Department's representative in this reporting requirement. For contact information for the local county health departments, please visit:

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/public-health-in-your-life/county-health-departments/CHDlisting.html>.

Contact Laura Rutledge, RN regarding vaccine recommendations at 850-245-4342.