



## Indiana State Department of Health

### Indiana Health Alert Network Advisory — May 22, 2019

Measles outbreaks have occurred throughout the United States this year, resulting in 880 cases in 24 states to date. This is the greatest number of cases reported in the United States since 1994 and since measles was eliminated in 2000. The majority of cases have occurred in New York City and New York State and are primarily associated with underimmunized, close-knit communities.

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) continues to urge providers across the state to be alert for increased measles activity and to immediately report suspect cases. At this time, **one** measles case has been confirmed in Indiana this year.

Attached to this IHAN are two resource documents regarding measles vaccine recommendations. The first is a flowchart to consult when evaluating vaccine recommendations for patients. The second is a provider letter from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

#### **Important: Recommendations for Adult Measles Vaccination**

The attached CDC healthcare provider letter clarifies recommendations for adult MMR vaccination and assessing immunity. The letter addresses the following points in more detail:

- **Providers do not need to actively screen adult patients for measles immunity.** This is because of high population immunity and low risk of disease among adults in non-outbreak areas in the United States.
- **Providers should make sure patients have measles protection before traveling internationally.** U.S. residents traveling internationally are at high risk for acquiring measles abroad. They can also transmit measles to susceptible persons, such as infants, when they return home.
- **If a patient is traveling internationally and measles immunity is unknown, providers should vaccinate, unless there are contraindications.** Serologic testing for measles immunity is not recommended.
- **During outbreaks, providers should consult with local health departments for the most up-to-date recommendations for their community.** This may include additional doses of MMR for your patients.

To report a suspect case, request specimen authorization, or get further information, please contact Payton Revolt, ISDH vaccine-preventable disease epidemiologist, at [prevolt@isdh.in.gov](mailto:prevolt@isdh.in.gov) or at 317-

**233-7277 or Ali Bianco, vaccine-preventable disease public health investigator, at [abianco@isdh.in.gov](mailto:abianco@isdh.in.gov) or at 317-233-7112.**

**To report a suspect case or request specimen authorization after business hours (8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. M-F), please contact the ISDH epidemiologist-on-call at 317-233-1325.**

Please call the ISDH Laboratories at 317-921-5500 for assistance with submitting specimen for testing. Please note that all measles specimens sent to ISDH Laboratories require authorization from an ISDH epidemiologist.

More information on measles, including a testing flowchart and infection timeline, can be found at <https://www.in.gov/isdh/25456.htm>.