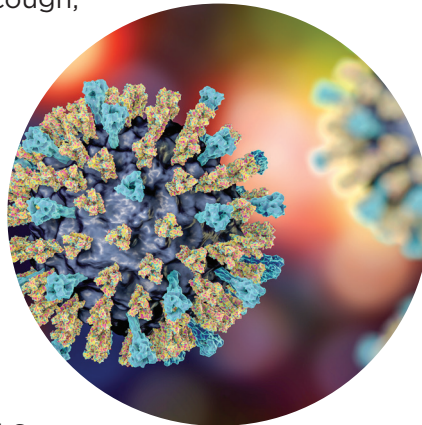


Measles

What is measles?

Measles is a highly contagious, acute viral illness that can lead to serious complications and death. It is caused by the measles virus. Measles symptoms begin with fever, followed by cough, runny nose and red eyes. Around 14 days after exposure, a rash of tiny, red spots break out; the spots usually start at the head and spread down to the rest of the body.¹ Patients are considered to be contagious from four days before to four days after the rash appears.¹



Why is measles a concern?

Once considered eliminated in the United States, measles cases are on the rise.² While the measles vaccine is highly effective, there are pockets of unvaccinated people across North America, increasing the risk of disease in those populations. This is especially true when unvaccinated travelers bring the virus back from countries where measles is still common.^{2,3,5} Infants less than one are too young to get the measles vaccine, which leaves them highly vulnerable to the disease.⁴ Many healthcare workers have never seen a case of measles, making early identification of cases particularly challenging.

How is measles spread?

The measles virus lives in the nose and throat of an infected person and is expelled into the air through coughing and sneezing. Once airborne, the virus can remain infectious in the air for up to two hours after an infected person leaves an area. If other people breathe the contaminated air, or touch a contaminated surface and then touch their eyes, noses or mouths, they can become infected.

Measles is so contagious that if one person has it, up to 90% of the people exposed who are not immune or vaccinated will also become infected.³

Infection Prevention and Control Measures

Measles infection prevention and control is everyone's responsibility— from each one of us as individuals, family members, business owners and employees to healthcare professionals. **For individuals, the best way to prevent the measles is to get vaccinated.** Completion of two doses of the vaccine is about 97% effective at preventing measles.⁴ In addition to getting vaccinated, employers should also:

- ▶ **Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as toys, doorknobs, tables and counters with a Health Canada registered disinfectant that is effective against the measles virus.**
- ▶ Ensure all employees are vaccinated.
- ▶ Properly wash hands with soap and water and/or use hand sanitizer.

In Healthcare Environments:

- ▶ Train nursing and environmental services (EVS) staff about measles.
- ▶ Place confirmed or suspected measles patients in a single-patient airborne infection isolation room.
- ▶ Do not allow staff without evidence of immunity or who have not been vaccinated to enter into a patient room.

Clorox Product Recommendations

The following Clorox disinfectants are Health Canada registered to kill the measles virus with the contact or wet time shown.

Clorox Healthcare® Bleach Germicidal Wipes 1 minute

DIN 02465671
150 ct. Clinical Wipes, Item No. 01557
70 ct. Multipurpose Wipes, Item No. 01308
110 ct. Terminal Wipes, Item No. 01309
110 ct. Terminal Wipes Refill, Item No. 01310



Clorox Healthcare® Germicidal Disinfecting Cleaner 1 minute

DIN 02469278
946 mL Pull-Top, Item No. 01416



Clorox Healthcare® VersaSure™ Cleaner Disinfectant Wipes 30 seconds

DIN 02473151
150 ct. Canister, Item No. 01686



Clorox® Germicidal Bleach 5 minutes

DIN 02483750
3.58 L Bottle, Item No. 01383



Clorox® Total 360® Disinfectant Cleaner 2 minutes

DIN 02460769
3.78 L Bottle, Item No. 01668



1. CDC. Signs and Symptoms. [internet]. [cited 2019 May 3]. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/signs-symptoms.html>
2. CDC. Measles Cases and Outbreaks. [internet]. [cited 2019 May 3]. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>
3. CDC. Transmission of Measles [internet]. [cited 2019 May 3]. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/transmission.html>
4. CDC. Measles Vaccination [internet]. [cited 2019 May 3]. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/vaccination.html>
5. CDC. Frequently Asked Questions about Measles [internet]. [cited 2019 May 3]. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/faqs.html>