



WARREN COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

416 South East Street – Lebanon, Ohio 45036

www.warrenchd.com

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Duane Stansbury, R.S., M.P.H.
Health Commissioner

Clint Koenig MD, MSPH
Medical Director

Dear Parent or Guardian:

03/15/2024

A Measles exposure event has occurred at the Heritage Bank Arena at a Disney on Ice show. The effected show was on **March 8, 2024 at 7:00 pm.** Anyone at the Heritage Bank Arena at any point during the show or for 2 hours after the show may have been exposed to Measles. **The case is not connected with your child's school,** but Measles can spread very rapidly among populations and the Warren County Health District wants to make families aware of the disease in the region along with steps that can be taken to protect your family from getting Measles.

Measles is a viral infection that spreads through coughing and sneezing. It is very contagious, but most school-aged children who are fully vaccinated with two doses of measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine are protected from measles. However, about 3 in 100 people who have received two doses of MMR vaccine will still get measles if exposed to the virus. Usually about 7-14 days (but up to 21 days) after exposure, measles begins with a cough, runny nose, red eyes, and a fever. About 3-5 days later, a red blotchy rash appears, usually first on the face, along the hairline and behind the ears. The rash rapidly spreads downward to the chest and back and, finally, to the thighs and feet. Measles is contagious up to 4 days prior to rash onset and 4 days after rash onset.

Most students with measles are sick enough that they miss at least a week of school. One in 5 people infected with measles will need to be in the hospital. Serious, even life-threatening complications such as pneumonia and brain swelling can occur from measles infection.

In Ohio, two doses of measles vaccine are required for all pupils in grades K – 12. MMR vaccine is effective and safe. MMR vaccines are available from healthcare providers, some urgent cares (call first), and the Warren County Health District (you may call (513) 695-1468 to schedule an appointment). **If there was a case of Measles in your child's school, all children without documentation of two doses of measles vaccine are required to be immediately excluded from school.**

- **For students with zero doses of measles vaccine-** If the student receives one documented dose of MMR within 72 hours after their initial exposure to the case-patient, they may return to school immediately. A second dose of MMR will need to be given 28 days later. Unvaccinated students (zero doses) who do not receive a dose of MMR within 72 hours, including those who have a medical or other exemption to vaccination, must be excluded from school through 21 days after the onset of the last known case in the school building.
- **For students with one dose of measles vaccine-** If the student receives a second documented dose of MMR at any time, they may return to school immediately upon receipt of documentation of the second dose.
- **All students in a school with a case of Measles-** Monitor for signs and symptoms of measles for 21 days after exposure at school.

Due to how contagious Measles is and the severity of complications from the disease, the Warren County Health District wants to ensure you have all the latest information to help you protect your family. If you have any questions, please call the Warren County Health District at 513-695-2097.

Sincerely,

Duane Stansbury, REHS, MPH
Health Commissioner