

## Durham Region Health Department **FAX about...**

For Health Care Professionals

## **Measles Preparedness - Update**

Ontario is experiencing a large measles outbreak. As of June 3, 2025, there have been 2,099 cases of measles in Ontario linked to this outbreak, and roughly 96% of cases are unvaccinated or have unknown immunization status. **There are currently no cases reported in Durham Region.** 

## **Outbreak Immunization Strategy**

As of May 2025, the following public health units in southwestern Ontario have implemented an <u>outbreak</u> <u>immunization strategy</u> due to active measles cases and ongoing risk of exposure in the community.

Chatham-Kent	Grey Bruce	Lambton	Waterloo	Windsor-Essex
Grand Erie	Huron Perth	Middlesex-London	Wellington-	Southwestern
			Dufferin-Guelph	

This strategy is recommended for individuals who live, work, **travel** (e.g., family visit), worship, or spend time in these public health unit jurisdictions:

- Infants (six to 11 months): Should receive one dose of the measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine. **Two** additional doses are required after one year of age.
- Children (one to four years): Children who have received their first dose of MMR vaccine should receive a second dose as soon as possible (at a minimum of four weeks from the first dose).
- Adults (18+ years) born on or after 1970: A second dose of MMR vaccine (for those who have not already received 2 doses) is recommended.

## **Actions Requested**

- Ensure patients who are planning to visit/travel to affected regions are vaccinated appropriately.
- Continue to offer routine or catch-up immunizations as per <u>Ontario's Publicly Funded</u> <u>Immunization Schedules</u>, especially for children who may have missed vaccines due to the COVID-19 pandemic and for adults born after 1970 with unknown immunization status.
- Adults born on/after 1970 and all children should be protected with 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine prior to travel outside of Canada. Infants 6 to 11 months of age are also recommended to receive a dose of MMR vaccine, similar to the current outbreak strategy.
- Ensure all staff are immunized and have immunization records or laboratory results with proof of measles immunity readily available.
  - If records are unavailable, receiving a measles-containing vaccine is preferable to ordering serology to determine immune status. There is no harm in giving measles-containing vaccine to an individual who is already immune

June 12, 2025

