

Fever and Rash?.....Consider Measles

Measles cases continue to be identified in California in returning international travelers. Measles is highly contagious. Please protect patients, visitors, and staff!

✓ **Keep an eye out for measles symptoms:**

Suspect measles in patients with:

- fever and rash
- history of international travel or contact with international visitors in the prior 3 weeks.

Note: A history of 2 doses of MMR vaccine does not exclude a measles diagnosis.

Prodrome

- Mild to moderate fever
- Cough
- Coryza
- Conjunctivitis

Rash onset

- Fever spikes, often as high as 104° to 105° F
- Red, maculopapular rash that may become confluent—typically starts at hairline, then face, and spreads rapidly down body
- Koplik's spots (tiny blue/white spots on the bright red background of the buccal mucosa) may be present



✓ **Act immediately if you suspect measles:**

- **Implement airborne infection control precautions immediately, mask and isolate patient—negative pressure room, if available.**
- **Permit only staff immune to measles to be near the patient.**
- **Notify your local health department immediately.**
- **Expedite measles serologic testing (IgM and IgG) at a public health lab; use of commercial labs may delay diagnosis.**
- **Safeguard other facilities: assure airborne infection control precautions before referring patients.**
- **Do not use any regular exam room for at least 1 hour after a suspected measles patient has left the room.**



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