

Being Prepared with Vaccination Records - Measles Exposures in Schools



Measles exposure in schools

Measles is a highly contagious virus. It spreads easily through the air when someone with measles breathes, coughs, or sneezes. Known for its classic rash that develops 4-5 days after the first symptoms of illness appear (fever, red eyes, runny nose, cough), measles starts to spread before many people know they have it.

This can result in rapid spread in high-risk settings, like schools, where children are in close contact with each other.

Two doses of measles-containing vaccine are required for all pupils who attend school in Ontario. Students with valid, legal exemptions who do not have two doses on file will be excluded from school for 21 days during confirmed measles exposures and/or outbreaks in schools.

In accordance with Ministry of Health guidance and with support from the Ministry of Education (memo), during confirmed measles exposures and / or outbreaks in schools, staff (including teachers, administrative staff, support staff, auxiliary supports in schools, etc.) must be able to provide Public Health with proof of two (2) doses of measles-containing vaccine if you were born after 1970. Failure to provide this proof may result in you being excluded from work for 21 days.

How to Prepare?

- **Born before 1970?** You are considered immune and do not have to provide vaccine records to Public Health
- **Born after 1970?** Get your vaccine records now.

Need Help?

- Find your childhood vaccine record.
- Reach out to your Health Care Provider and ask for a record.
- If you only have one dose of measles-vaccine on record, arrange a second dose ASAP to ensure you are protected.

Still Need Help?

- If you live in London or Middlesex County, visit <https://www.healthunit.com/immunization-records>
- If you live in Elgin County, St. Thomas, Oxford County, visit www.swpublichealth.ca/vaccineswork

Important Notes:

- When visiting the Public Health Unit vaccine record search sites (known as ICON), the information you enter must match your Ontario Health Card (including name and address).
- For most Public Health Units, there are no vaccination records available in the provincial system for those born before 1974. This will require you to reach out to your Health Care Provider to see if they have your record. If they do not, consider starting your measles vaccine series with them.
- If you were vaccinated out of province or in other regions in Ontario, your records may not be in the Ontario system. This will require you to reach out to those areas to request their assistance to find your vaccination record.