



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

June 24, 2019

Dear Day Care Provider,

Measles outbreaks continue to occur in the Orthodox Jewish communities in Williamsburg, Boro Park, Brooklyn, Rockland County, and Orange County, New York. Cases have also been reported by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. The majority of cases across all jurisdictions have been in children who were not age appropriately up-to-date with measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) Vaccines.

Measles spreads easily and can be dangerous to anyone who is not vaccinated. Household members should be advised to stay home if anyone in their house has been exposed to or infected with measles, and to call their primary care provider or local health department for guidance on the need for isolation.

The best way to prevent the spread of measles is to receive the MMR vaccine:

Children 12 to 15 months: The first measles vaccine is recommended between the ages of 12 and 15 months. However, children should get their first MMR as soon as possible, especially in one of the outbreak areas above. While a second MMR vaccine is usually given between 4 and 6 years of age, the second MMR vaccine should be given as soon as possible, which is 28 days after the first dose, during a measles outbreak or before traveling out of the country.

Infants 6 to 11 months: A single dose of MMR vaccine is recommended for infants 6 to 11 months of age who live in Williamsburg, Boro Park, Sunset Park, Rockland County, or Orange County, the communities affected by the measles outbreak. It is also recommended if they are going to travel internationally. These children will still need the 2 routine doses given at 12 to 15 months and 4 to 6 years of age to ensure protection. They will receive a total of 3 MMR vaccines.

Adults: Adults who do not have a record of at least one dose of a live measles-containing vaccine, or don't know whether they have ever been vaccinated against measles, should talk with their health care providers. Healthcare personnel, students at post-high school educational institutions (such as college or vocational school) and international travelers will need 2 doses of MMR. A second dose of MMR can also be given to adults who live in the outbreak areas described above. Pregnant women cannot be given the vaccine.

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) regulations pertaining to health and infection control state that child care programs must immediately notify parents and OCFS upon learning of a communicable illness like measles.

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYCDOHMH) requires day care programs to inform the NYCDOHMH by telephone within 24 hours of learning of any child in their care who has a vaccine-preventable illness. A staff person with a communicable disease is prohibited from coming to work and a notification must be sent to OCFS, and if located within NYC, NYCDOHMH.

Providers must keep documentation of immunizations that children have received to date and accurate attendance records, in accordance with New York State Public Health Law.

The Division of Nutrition will be providing a webinar for WIC and CACFP providers on July 9, 2019 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The webinar will provide an overview of measles and address any questions.

Click on the link below to register:

- <https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/k2/j.php?MTID=t021d013ff0c4d61e2a7a3da90c4310d6>.
- Enter the required information.
- Double check that your email address is correct.
- Click on **Register**.
- You will receive an email confirmation immediately with instructions for joining the session.
- The email will be sent from *NYS ITS Enterprise Conferencing*.
- **If you do not receive a return email immediately after registering, then you are not registered!**

To join by phone only:

- On the day of the session, call the number below and enter the **access code**.
- US Toll Free: 1-844-633-8697
- Local: 1-518-549-0500
- **Access code: 644 640 865**
- If needed, click on the link below for information about toll-free dialing restrictions:
https://www.webex.com/pdf/tollfree_restrictions.pdf

** To ensure an on-time start please log on to the webinar using the link and password in your confirmation email, and call in on the telephone, **at least 10 minutes** prior to the start of the webinar.

Additional resources can be accessed by visiting the NYS DOH measles webpage at <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2170/> or calling the NYS Measles Hotline at 888-364-4837.

Sincerely,



Lois Hazelton, MS, RD
Assistant Director
Child and Adult Care Food Programs