

WA DOH-LHJ Immunization Basecamp > Message Board

✦ FYI

# Letter from Dr. Tao Kwan-Gett

 Jessica Haag · Apr 9

Dear Colleagues,

CDC recently issued two letters to healthcare providers to share an update on the recent rise in measles cases and updated guidance:

- [MMR Travel and Outbreak Recommendations](#)
  - Contains a summary of the current measles situation as well as measles vaccination recommendations – including for travel to outbreak affected areas, and links to measles resources.
- [COCA Measles Message](#)
  - Highlights importance of identifying measles or exposures to measles and responding with actions to mitigate spread – isolating patients, notifying public health, collecting samples, and managing patients with supportive care.

Please share this information through your networks. In addition we encourage healthcare providers to:

- Actively promote MMR vaccination and support patients in getting up to date.
- Increase opportunities for vaccination, including offering MMR vaccine during routine and acute visits.
- Reduce barriers to vaccination access, particularly for communities at higher risk for disease or complications.

The [MMR Travel and Outbreak Recommendations](#) contain guidance on MMR vaccination, including when to consider an early dose of MMR vaccine for infants aged 6–11 months. Please note that:

- No consultation with local or Tribal public health is needed if the early dose is related to travel — either domestic or international — to an area affected by an outbreak.
- Consultation with [Local Health Jurisdictions](#) is *required* if the early dose is *not* related to travel, unless public health has already recommended early vaccination in response to a local outbreak.

Please see the following resources for additional support:

- [Measles Communications Toolkit for Washington State Partners \(PDF\)](#)
- [Immunizations Response Guide: Measles \(PDF\)](#)
- [Measles Post-Exposure Prophylaxis \(PEP\) for Non-Symptomatic Susceptible Contacts \(PDF\)](#)
- [WA Measles Update 2025 \(webinar recording\)](#)

For more information about vaccines, please contact the DOH Office of Immunization at 360-236-3595 or email [oi@doh.wa.gov](mailto:oi@doh.wa.gov). If you wish to report suspected outbreaks of measles or have questions about diagnosis or testing, please call 206-418-5500 or email [vpd-cde@doh.wa.gov](mailto:vpd-cde@doh.wa.gov). And as always, feel free to reach out to State Medical Epidemiologist Scott Lindquist ([Scott.Lindquist@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Scott.Lindquist@doh.wa.gov)) or me ([TaoSheng.Kwan-Gett@doh.wa.gov](mailto:TaoSheng.Kwan-Gett@doh.wa.gov)) with other questions or concerns.

With gratitude for all you do for the health of your communities,

**Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett, MD MPH**

State Health Officer

Washington Department of Health

[taosheng.kwan-gett@doh.wa.gov](mailto:taosheng.kwan-gett@doh.wa.gov)

360-522-2223 | [www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)