

Paul Farrow
County Executive

Elizabeth Aldred
Director
Lisa Roberts
Deputy Director



Waukesha County Department of Health and Human Services

Contact: Nicole Kelly, Public Information Officer
Cell: 414-940-0425
Email: nkelly@waukeshacounty.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONFIRMED CASE OF MEASLES IN WAUKESHA COUNTY

(Waukesha, WI) – Waukesha County Public Health has confirmed a case of measles in an adult resident who contracted the disease while traveling internationally. The individual followed appropriate precautions after symptoms appeared. Waukesha County Public Health, alongside the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, is working diligently to identify and notify individuals who may have been exposed to the measles virus. We are implementing control measures to prevent further spread.

Individuals are encouraged to check their MMR immunization status. Immunization records can be accessed via the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR), available in multiple languages including English, Spanish, and Hmong. If you are unable to access your records, please contact your healthcare provider or local health department.

“Our team is fully committed to keeping the community safe and is working around the clock to manage this situation,” said Benjamen Jones, Waukesha County Public Health Officer. “The cooperation from everyone involved has been exceptional, enhancing our capability to respond effectively. By leveraging strong community ties, we are ensuring quick and efficient support to protect our residents and prevent the spread of the virus.”

According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Measles is highly contagious, spreading through the air and remaining airborne for up to two hours after an infected person coughs or sneezes.

Signs and symptoms of measles include:

- Runny nose
- High fever (may exceed 104°F)
- Tiredness
- Cough
- Red, watery eyes, or conjunctivitis (“pink eye”)
- A red rash with raised bumps appearing three to five days after initial symptoms, starting at the hairline and moving to the limbs.

If you exhibit measles symptoms, remain at home and contact your healthcare provider. Inform them of potential exposure to measles and discuss the symptoms you are experiencing.

According to DHS and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (CDC) measles is preventable through vaccination. DHS recommends all children receive two doses of the MMR vaccine before age 4. Additionally, people born before 1957 are considered immune and do not need a vaccine. All other adults without laboratory evidence of immunity should have at least one dose of measles-containing vaccine, and children should have two doses.

Individuals who are pregnant, severely immunocompromised, have young children under 12 months, or are otherwise ineligible for the MMR vaccine should seek guidance from their medical provider.

Vaccinations are available through healthcare providers, select pharmacies, and local health clinics.

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