



Measles Outbreak in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania health officials are urging people who haven't been **vaccinated against measles** to get vaccinated, especially those who may have been exposed to a sick Shippensburg-area child at several public locations.

People who come down with **the highly contagious illness** typically get sick one to two weeks after exposure. But vaccination can protect them if given within three days of exposure, state health officials said.

Measles is considered one of the most dangerous childhood illnesses and in rare cases leads to death. It can also strike adults, causing problems such as miscarriage in pregnant women.

Most Americans are immune to measles because they received a vaccine known as MMR during infancy and again in early childhood. People who have had measles also are immune.

The state health department said these people are at risk of getting the measles:

- Infants under a year old who are too young to have received the MMR vaccine;
- People who have refused vaccination;
- People from parts of the world with low vaccination rates;
- People vaccinated from 1963 to 1967 with an inactivated vaccine and who haven't been revaccinated;
- People born after 1957 who received only one dose of the MMR vaccine.
- The first dose of MMR is typically given to children between the ages of 12 and 15 months.
- Measles symptoms include high fever, runny nose, watery eyes, coughing, and a raised red rash that starts on the face and spreads to the rest of the body.

For more information about measles, check out the Pennsylvania Department of Health's [website](#) or the CDC [website](#)