

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 07/12/2018

TO: Grant County Media

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT

Heather Massart, Public Information Officer
509-766-7960 ext. 16

Measles in Washington State

No cases have been reported in Grant County

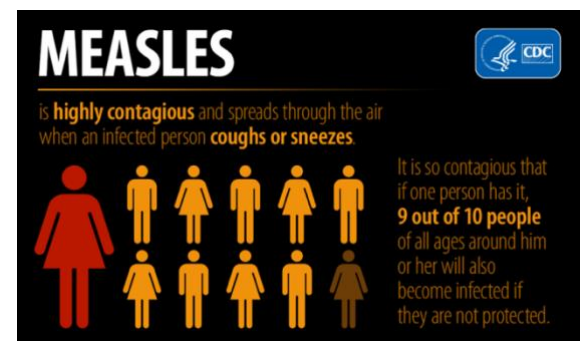
GRANT COUNTY, WA –Grant County Health Officer, Dr. Alexander Brzezny, has issued the following alert to the Grant County community: Two lab-confirmed cases of measles have been confirmed in Multnomah County (Oregon), one lab confirmed case in Snohomish County, and a suspected case in Clark County. **There have been no measles cases reported in Grant County.** Measles poses the highest risk to people **who have not been vaccinated with the Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR), pregnant women, infants younger than 12 months and people with weakened immune systems.** If traveling to areas with known measles cases it is imperative to become immunized or ensure immunity against the illness.

If you or your child have signs/ symptoms or have traveled to an area with measles and encountered ill individuals call your healthcare provider immediately before going to the healthcare facility to reduce the risk of exposure to others.

Measles is a highly contagious and potentially serious illness caused by a virus. It is spread through the air after a person with measles coughs or sneezes. It can also be spread by direct contact with nose or throat mucus (snot) of someone with measles. A person with measles can spread the virus before they show symptoms, **4-5 days before the rash appears and up to 4 days after.** The virus can also linger in the air after someone who is infectious has left. If you have never been vaccinated for measles (MMR) or been sick with measles, you have a 90% chance of catching it if you go near someone who has it.

You are less likely to become ill with measles if:

- You were born before 1957.
- You are certain you have had measles.
- You are up to date on measles vaccines
 - One dose for children 12 months through 3 years' old
 - Two doses in anyone 4 years and older.
- Washington State Department of Health: [Vaccine schedule](#)



Signs & symptoms of Measles:

The symptoms of measles start with a fever (around 101° F.), cough, runny nose and red eyes followed by a rash that usually begins at the head and spreads to the rest of the body. People are contagious with measles for four days before the rash appears and up to four days after the rash appears.

Common complications of measles include ear infection, lung infection, or diarrhea. Swelling of the brain is a rare but much more serious complication. For every 1,000 children with measles, 1 or 2 will die from the disease.



Resources:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [Information for Parents and Caregivers](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [Signs & symptoms](#)

Snohomish County [Media Release](#)

Clark County [Media Release](#)

Consultation

Kari Hitzroth RN, Public Health Nurse

509-766-7960 ext. 13

Jill McCullough RN, Public Health Nurse

509-766-7960 ext. 25

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