



**Public Health Advisory**  
**08/07/2025**  
**Measles Detected in Wastewater, Clark County, NV**

**SITUATIONAL AWARENESS SUMMARY**

**Situation:** On August 5, 2025, the [WastewaterSCAN Dashboard](#) reported detection of wild-type measles virus RNA in August 1 samples from Clark County Water Reclamation District (CCWRD) and Flamingo Water Resource Center (FWRC).

- As of July 30, 2025, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [reported](#) a total of 1,333 cases of measles in 2025 with 3 confirmed deaths.
- **A single wastewater detection of measles RNA is not, by itself, evidence of active community transmission; Wastewater findings indicate that one or more persons in the sewershed may be shedding measles RNA virus.**
- While active outbreaks continue in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, Clark County, NV, has not had a reported measles case since 2018.

**Measles is highly contagious, and wastewater can serve as an important early warning tool. Given the recent wastewater detection, SNHD strongly urges all healthcare providers to:**

- 1) **Maintain a High Index of Clinical Suspicion for Measles:** [Consider measles](#) in patients presenting with the following symptoms:
  - a) Cough, coryza (runny nose), or conjunctivitis **and/or** Koplik spots (bluish-white specks or a red-rose background appearing on the buccal and labial mucosa, usually opposite the molars) **AND**
  - b) Fever  $\geq 101^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $38.3^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) **AND**
  - c) Maculopapular rash that typically starts on the head and descends.
- 2) **Implement Infection Control Measures to Prevent Transmission:**
  - a) **Immediately mask and isolate patients suspected of having measles. Place them in airborne isolation immediately.** If a negative pressure room is unavailable, keep the patient in a closed exam room wearing a surgical mask.
  - b) Measles respiratory secretions can live for up to two hours in an airspace or on contaminated surfaces.
- 3) **Perform Laboratory Testing for Measles Promptly: Testing should be done at initial medical visit.** Minimize referral to external sites for testing to minimize transmission.

Test	Specimen	CPL	LabCorp	Quest
Measles RT-PCR	Nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swab	3594	140470	39306
Measles RT-PCR	Urine	3461	140505	-
Measles IgM*	Serum	4603	160178	34256

\*Recent measles vaccination can cause a positive IgM. It can also cause fever (10%) and rash (5%) in children around 6 to 12 days after vaccination.

- 4) **Emphasize the Importance of Measles Vaccination:** Discuss immunization measures for prevention.
  - a) Recommended 2 dose series started between 12-15 months.
    - i) Separate MMR and VAR vaccines preferred for dose 1 if given between ages 12-47 months.
    - ii) MMRV preferred for dose 2 and dose 1 at age 48 months or older.
  - b) Adult vaccination recommended without acceptable presumptive immunity for specific populations:
    - i) Born 1957 or later, at least 1 dose if unvaccinated.
    - ii) 2 doses for students entering post-high school educational institutions.
    - iii) 2 doses for healthcare personnel.
- 5) **Report: Do not wait for laboratory confirmation to report** to SNHD's Disease Surveillance and Control via Phone 702-759-1300.

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**Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention

**Health Advisory:** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

**Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action

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