

March 31, 2025

Measles Update

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to mitigate the measles outbreak in Huron Perth. Thank you also for your questions and feedback. This is a rapidly evolving situation. Ontario reported 453 confirmed and 119 probable cases of as March 26. In Huron Perth there are 42 confirmed cases and 29 probable cases as of March 31.

This alert is intended to provide updates about screening in Huron Perth.

Need to reach us?

To report a suspect case of measles or exposure:

E-mail the Infectious Disease team at IDteam@hpph.ca (indicate urgency/healthcare provider in subject line for quickest response) or leave a voicemail message at 888-221-2133 ext. 3284.

To ask about measles vaccine:

E-mail the Immunization team at immunization@hpph.ca (indicate urgency/healthcare provider in subject line for quickest response) or leave a voicemail message at 888-221-2133 ext. 3558.

Urgent requests

If you need an urgent consultation, please call 888-221-2133 press 1 and advise Reception that you are a healthcare provider with an urgent measles-related matter. Note: the public Measles Information Line is for general inquiries only.

Screening Update

HPPH continues to be made aware of potential/confirmed measles exposures in healthcare settings. Given that measles is circulating in Huron and Perth counties, and more than 90% of cases are in un-immunized or under-immunized people, consider screening for measles vaccination status.

As a reminder, measles starts as a respiratory illness and is infectious prior to rash onset. We continue to recommend active screening, and treat as a potential measles case, for patients seeking care who present with:

- Respiratory symptoms (fever, cough, rhinitis); AND
 - o Exposure to a confirmed or probable measles case OR
 - o Coming from any under-immunized community (note that community members may not be aware of other cases in their community) OR
 - o Any un-immunized/under-immunized person (anyone born after 1970 should have proof of two measles vaccinations or lab-confirmed immunity)

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- Koplik spots are pathognomonic. They are classically described as being bright red spots with white or bluish-white centers that may resemble grains of sand. They may occur anywhere in the mouth and often precede the generalized exanthem.
- Another feature of measles is non-purulent conjunctivitis.

Consideration should be given to family members accompanying a care-seeking patient who screens positive; the family members may themselves be potentially incubating illness if they are under-immunized household contacts and therefore may contribute to risk of exposures in healthcare settings.

We recommend active screening prior to the patient entering the healthcare provider space. As a reminder, the secondary attack rate of measles in susceptible exposed persons is 90% or more for indoor shared air.

Measles Resources

[Measles IPAC Checklist for Clinics and Specimen Collection Centres](#) | Public Health Ontario (September 2024).

[Interim IPAC Recommendations and Use of PPE for Care of Individuals with Suspect or Confirmed](#)

[Measles Information for Health Care Providers](#) | Public Health Ontario (September 2024)

[Measles](#) | Public Health Ontario (March 2024)

[Measles in Ontario: Enhanced Epidemiological Summary](#) | Public Health Ontario