

PROVIDER ALERT!

TO: Healthcare Providers

DATE: April 14, 2026

FROM: Amador County Public Health (ACPH) | 209-223-6407

RE: Measles Testing Process for Medical Providers

Situation Report: Amador County Public Health (ACPH) is available to facilitate measles testing for both pediatric and adult patients presenting with symptoms consistent with measles.

For Suspected Measles:

1. Evaluate persons for measles symptoms, exposures, and vaccination status. Whenever possible, screen by phone or evaluate patients in their car or outside according to your policy.
 - **Symptoms:** Fever (100.4° F or 38° C), cough, coryza (runny nose), and conjunctivitis (red, watery eyes). Measles rash appears 3-5 days after the first symptoms, usually starting on the face (hairline) then spread down to the neck, trunk, arms, legs, and feet.
 - **Exposures:** Inquire about exposures to a known or suspected case OR recent travel to an area with measles outbreaks.
 - **Vaccination:** Consider measles even if vaccinated if symptoms and exposure history align.
2. Immediately mask and isolate patients with known or suspected measles. Place patient in a single-person room.
3. **Report any known or suspect cases immediately by phone to ACPH at (209) 223-6407. If the patient is in your office, collect specimens for testing.**
 - Throat or nasopharyngeal swab collected within 14 days of rash onset. Use Dacron tipped swabs with a non-wooden shaft. Place specimen in viral transport media (VTM). Refrigerate specimens (2-8° C) until transported to lab. Specimens must be transported within 48 hours.
 - Urine: Use sterile collection cup and collect within 14 days of rash onset. Refrigerate specimens (2-8° C) until transported to lab. Specimens must be transported within 48 hours.
4. **If your office has evaluated a patient virtually, Amador County Public Health can assist with specimen collection, however you must speak with us prior to sending the patient. See instructions on page 2.**
5. Adhere to Standard and Airborne Precautions for patients with known or suspected measles.

To reduce the risk of exposure, contact ACPH for testing referral instructions.

(See reverse side)



Amador County Public Health

10877 Conductor Blvd., Sutter Creek, CA 95685

209-223-6407 | publichealth@amadorcounty.gov

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Patient Instructions for Specimen Collection at ACPH

Providers should give patients the following instructions:

- Provider must call the ACPH main line (209-223-6407) to arrange for testing.
Walk-ins are not permitted.
- At the scheduled appointment time, patients should park in the back center of the Public Health building.
- Patients must stay in their vehicle upon arrival.
- Patients must call the main phone number upon arrival to notify staff that they are on site. Call 209-223-6407.
- A Public Health nurse will go out to the patient's vehicle to collect the specimen.

Important Notes for Providers

- This process is designed to limit exposure risk to other patients, staff, and the public.
- Please emphasize the importance of following all instructions carefully.
- If you have a suspected measles case, contact ACPH directly for consultation and reporting guidance.

Resources:

1. Measles Healthcare Exposure Investigation Quicksheet (CDPH):

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Measles-HCFacilityCRecs.pdf>

2. Measles Investigation Quicksheet:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Measles-Quicksheet.pdf>

3. Measles Cases and Outbreaks (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html>

4. Global Measles Outbreaks (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/global-measles-vaccination/data-research/global-measles-outbreaks/index.html>



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