

## Measles Outbreak Plagues California Vaccinate to protect against measles

California is experiencing an increase in measles cases reaching 764 as of May 7, 2019. Please educate your patients and make sure they:

- **Get immunized.** Children ages 12 months and older should receive two doses of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine separated by at least 28 days. Infants ages 6 through 11 months should receive one dose of MMR before traveling outside of the United States. Children should be fully vaccinated with MMR vaccine at least two weeks before departure.
- **Are aware of measles signs and symptoms and seek treatment.** Measles often begins with a high fever, followed by a cough, runny nose, red and watery eyes.
- **Remind family and friends overseas to get immunized before they visit.** Loved ones need to be protected against measles before they travel.

### Record high outbreak for measles

The current outbreak is double the number of cases from a year ago, and is the highest total in 25 years. Most of these cases are children under age 18.

Measles is highly contagious and spreads through the air when someone who is ill with the disease coughs or sneezes. It is particularly serious in children younger than age five and in older adults. In a given year, more measles cases can occur for any of the following reasons:

- An increase in the number of travelers who have measles before traveling and who bring it into the United States, and/or
- Spread of measles in communities with pockets of unvaccinated people.

### Resources

Source	Website
California Department of Public Health	<b>Measles Clinical Guidance</b> – <a href="http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Measles-ClinicalGuidance.pdf">www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Measles-ClinicalGuidance.pdf</a>
	<b>Infection Control Recommendations for Suspect Measles Patients</b> – <a href="http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Measles-HCFacilityICRecs.pdf">www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Measles-HCFacilityICRecs.pdf</a>
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	<b>Measles</b> – <a href="http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/diseases/measles">wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/diseases/measles</a>
	<b>For Travelers</b> – <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/measles/travelers.html">www.cdc.gov/measles/travelers.html</a>
	<b>Transmission of Measles</b> – <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/transmission.html">www.cdc.gov/measles/about/transmission.html</a>
	<b>Immunization Schedules</b> – <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html">www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html</a>

THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO MEDI-CAL PROVIDERS:

- Physicians
- Participating Physician Groups
- Hospitals
- Ancillary Providers

### PROVIDER SERVICES

1-888-893-1569  
[www.healthnet.com](http://www.healthnet.com)

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## **Additional information**

Providers are encouraged to access the provider portal online at [provider.healthnet.com](http://provider.healthnet.com) for real-time information, including eligibility verification, claims status, prior authorization status, plan summaries, and more.

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this update, contact CalViva Health at 1-888-893-1569.