



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	Measles Clinical Guidance – www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Measles-ClinicalGuidance.pdf
	Infection Control Recommendations for Suspect Measles Patients – www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Measles-HCFacilityICRecs.pdf
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Measles – wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/diseases/measles
	For Travelers – www.cdc.gov/measles/travelers.html
	Transmission of Measles – www.cdc.gov/measles/about/transmission.html
	Immunization Schedules – www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html

THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO
CAL MEDICONECT
 PROVIDERS:

- Physicians
- Participating Physician Groups
- Hospitals
- Ancillary Providers

PROVIDER SERVICES

provider_services@healthnet.com
 Los Angeles County – 1-855-464-3571
 San Diego County – 1-855-464-3572
www.healthnet.com

PROVIDER COMMUNICATIONS

provider.communications@
 healthnet.com

Additional information

Providers are encouraged to access Health Net's provider portal online at 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 the Health Net Provider Services Center by email at provider_services@healthnet.com within 60 days, by telephone or through the Health Net provider website as listed in the right-hand column on page 1.