



**- Please immediately bring to the attention of all doctors -**

Date: 20 May 2016

Contact telephone number: **1300 232 272 (24 hours/7 days)**

## MEASLES

SA Health has been notified of a case of measles in a 4 year old male in metropolitan Adelaide who had recently returned from Bali, Indonesia. The case was in the settings listed below whilst infectious:

- Jetstar flight JQ128 from Bali, arriving Adelaide at 6:30am on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016
- Adelaide Airport, between 6:30am and 9:00 am on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May
- Blessed Cheese Café, 150 Main Road, McLaren Vale, between 9:30am and 11:30 am on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May
- Galilee Catholic School, Cnr Quinliven and How Rds, Aldinga on the morning of Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May
- Coles supermarket, Aldinga Beach Rd, Aldinga Beach, on the morning of Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May
- Aldinga Community Kindergarten, 63 Butterworth Rd, Aldinga Beach, between 9:00am and 4:00pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May
- McLaren Vale Family Practice, 137 Main Rd, McLaren Vale, between 1:30pm and 2:30pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May.

Measles is a highly contagious viral infection transmitted via respiratory aerosols that remain a risk to others for up to 30 minutes after the person has left the area. The incubation period is about 10 days (range 7 to 18 days) to the onset of prodromal symptoms and about 14 days to rash appearance. **The illness is characterised by cough, coryza, conjunctivitis, a descending morbilliform rash, and fever present at the time of rash onset.** The infectious period is from 4 days before to 4 days after the appearance of the rash.

**Doctors with patients suspected of having measles are asked to:**

- **Notify urgently** any patient with **suspected** measles to the CDCB on **1300 232 272 (24 hours/7 days)**. Do not wait for laboratory confirmation.
- **Arrange urgent laboratory testing** through SA Pathology. GPs can take throat swabs in viral transport medium for 'measles PCR' (preferred specimen) and urine for 'measles PCR' (yellow top container) at their practice. Blood (clotted serum tube) for 'measles-specific IgM and IgG' is desirable but if not able to be collected at the practice, the laboratory collection centre should be telephoned in advance.
- **Isolate** suspected and confirmed measles cases and exclude from child-care/ school/ workplace for at least 4 days after rash appearance.
- **Ensure** all household and other contacts are protected against measles as indicated in the Australian Immunisation Handbook 10th edition pages 280-281.
- **Minimise transmission of measles:**
  - Examine patients suspected of having measles in their own homes wherever possible.
  - Ensure the patient is only seen by practice staff who have confirmed immunity to measles (documented history of 2 measles-containing vaccines OR measles IgG positive serology)
  - Ensure suspected cases do not use the waiting room, and conduct the consultation in a room that can be left vacant for at least 30 minutes afterwards.
  - Treat all people who attend the rooms within 30 minutes of the infectious patient as contacts.

### Measles vaccination

Two doses of a measles containing vaccine are highly effective at preventing measles. Offer measles vaccine (unless contraindicated, for example in pregnant women) to all potentially susceptible persons who attend your practice. Please refer to

<http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/IT0169-cnt>.

Measles vaccine should also be considered in susceptible persons prior to overseas travel.

Further clinical information is available at [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/InfectiousDiseaseControl](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/InfectiousDiseaseControl) and recent public health alerts are available at [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/HealthAlerts](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/HealthAlerts)

For all enquires please contact the CDCB on 1300 232 272 (24 hours/7 days)

**Dr Ann Koehler – Director, Communicable Disease Control Branch**