

Measles

[Fact sheet](http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthConditions/2/Infections-Parasites/41/Viral-Infections/748/Measles) [http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthConditions/2/Infections-Parasites/41/Viral-Infections/748/Measles] - Health conditions directory.

Measles is an acute, highly infectious illness caused by the measles virus. Measles can cause serious complications such as pneumonia (lung infection) and encephalitis (inflammation of the brain). It may also cause middle ear infection. Measles should not be regarded as a simple mild disease. Deaths occur mainly in children under five years of age, primarily from pneumonia, and occasionally from encephalitis. Complications are more common and more severe in people with a chronic illness and very young children.

Public health management guidelines

- Read [Communicable Diseases Network Australia guidelines](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-measles.htm) [http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-measles.htm]

Notification

Pathology laboratories

- [Notification criteria for pathology laboratories](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/notif-criteria-guide.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/notif-criteria-guide.pdf] (PDF, 55kB)
- [Communications](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-measles.htm#toc06) [http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-measles.htm#toc06] (notification procedure)

Attending medical practitioners/medical superintendents (or delegates)

To immediately notify the Public Health Unit of suspected, probable or confirmed cases of measles by telephone or fax.

- [Case definition](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-measles.htm#toc07) [http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-measles.htm#toc07]
- [Communications](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-measles.htm#toc06) [http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-measles.htm#toc06] (notification procedure)

Notification resources

- List of all [Pathological, clinical and provisional diagnosis notifiable conditions](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/notifiable-conditions/list/default.asp) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/notifiable-conditions/list/default.asp]
- List of [Public Health Unit](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/contact-us/contact/public-health-units/default.asp) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/contact-us/contact/public-health-units/default.asp] contacts
- [Notifiable conditions report form for Queensland clinicians \(PHA S70\)](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/publications/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/notif-conditions-rpt.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/publications/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/notif-conditions-rpt.pdf] (PDF, 48kB) - if faxing notification, follow up by phone.

Enhanced surveillance for public health units

- [Case report form](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/cr-measles.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/cr-measles.pdf] (PDF, 327kB) - used by public health units to collect and manage more detailed information for enhanced case surveillance.

Clinical guidelines

- [Flowchart](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-flowchart.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-flowchart.pdf] (PDF, 83kB) - quick reference chart for immediate management of measles.

Resources for health professionals

Immunisation

- [Immunisation](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/immunisation/default.asp) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/immunisation/default.asp] – Queensland Health website for health professionals.
- [Australian immunisation handbook](http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/Handbook10-home-handbook10part4) [http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/Handbook10-home-handbook10part4] - provides clinical guidelines for health professionals on the safest and most effective use of vaccines in their practice.

Training

URL: <http://disease-control.health.qld.gov.au/condition/767/measles>

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- [Measles recognition and public health management](https://webcast.gigtv.com.au/Mediasite/Play/d96023bf3e4645ae9e854622d81e959a1d) [https://webcast.gigtv.com.au/Mediasite/Play/d96023bf3e4645ae9e854622d81e959a1d] – presentation by Dr Brad McCall and Dr Michael Nissen.

Related information

- Download [Emergency departments measles alert](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-id-ed.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-id-ed.pdf] (PDF, 299kB)
- Download [Emergency departments measles poster](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-poster-ed.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-poster-ed.pdf] (PDF, 225kB)
- Download [General practitioners measles alert](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-id-gp.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-id-gp.pdf] (PDF, 361kB)
- Download [Pathology services measles alert](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-id-ps.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-id-ps.pdf] (PDF, 309kB)
- Download [Pathology services measles poster](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-poster-ps.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/measles-poster-ps.pdf] (PDF, 223kB)

Epidemiological data and reports

- View [communicable diseases data for notifiable conditions in Queensland](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/surveillance/reports/notifiable/default.asp) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/surveillance/reports/notifiable/default.asp].