



CARROLL COUNTY
GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT
Healthy People — Safe Communities

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Carroll County General Health District

Health Officials Increase Measles Awareness

Carrollton – Officials at the Carroll County General Health District have received confirmation from the Ohio Department of Health that the first case of measles for 2019 has occurred in Stark County. This young adult recently traveled to a state with confirmed measles cases. From January 1 – July 11, 2019, 1,123 cases have been reported nationally. This is the greatest number of reported cases in the U.S. since 1992. Locally, Ohio experienced a measles outbreak of 314 confirmed measles cases from January 1st-June 12th, 2014 and it spread to seven north-central counties. This included Ashland, Coshocton, Holmes, Knox, Richland, Stark, and Wayne Counties.

Since this is the first case in Ohio, and as Stark County is adjacent to Carroll County, health officials encourage unvaccinated individuals to get vaccinated. Measles is more contagious than Pertussis and CANNOT be treated with antibiotics. The best prevention is to get vaccinated. Those individuals who have signed religious or philosophical waivers for school records should also be vaccinated.

Measles is extremely contagious and can spread through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It is so contagious that if one person has it, 9 out of 10 people around him or her will also become infected if they are not protected. Your child can get measles just by being in a room where a person with measles has been, even up to two hours after that person has left. An infected person can spread measles to others even before knowing he/she has the disease – from four days before developing the measles rash through four days afterward.

Some of the more common measles symptoms include:

- Fever
- Rash
- Runny nose
- Red eyes

The Center for Disease and Control and Prevention states that children should get 2 doses of MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella). The first dose to be administered at 12 through 15 months of age and the second dose 4 through 6 years of age. Many adults 18 years of age and older may be susceptible to measles, mumps, and rubella without knowing it. People who were vaccinated prior to 1968 with either inactivated (killed) measles vaccine or measles vaccine of unknown type should be revaccinated with at least one dose of live

attenuated measles vaccine. This recommendation is intended to protect those who may have received killed measles vaccine, which was available in 1963-1967 and was not effective. Measles vaccination is available at your primary care physician's office, the Carroll County General Health District by appointment, or one of the following locations: Drug Mart, Rite Aid, Shriver's Pharmacy.

For more information or to schedule a measles vaccination, call the Carroll County General Health District at 330-627-4866 ext. 1530.

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