

Panhandle

Public Health District

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For Immediate Release:

Modified MMR Vaccine Recommendations to Include Dawes County, Public MMR Vaccination Clinics Scheduled on June 6 & June 13 in Rushville

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is expanding the measles/mumps/rubella (MMR) vaccination recommendations to include Dawes County residents.

Two doses of MMR vaccine are about 97% effective at preventing measles; one dose is about 93% effective. The following updated MMR vaccine recommendations now apply to both Sheridan and Dawes County residents:

- Residents aged 6-11 months should receive an early dose of MMR vaccine. This should be followed by two additional doses of MMR beginning at 12 months of age.
- Residents aged 12 months or older with only one dose of MMR vaccine should receive their second dose as soon as possible, at least 28 days following the first dose.
- Residents born prior to 1957 are presumed to have natural immunity to measles but should talk to their provider if they have concerns about their immune status.

"While it is rare, a person can still get the measles if they are vaccinated. This is called a breakthrough infection. Common reasons a breakthrough infection could happen are the timing of vaccination relative to measles exposure, the intensity and duration of exposure, and if someone has a weakened immune system," said Dr. Sydney Stein, DHHS State Epidemiologist.

Yesterday, a case of measles was reported in an age-appropriately vaccinated child residing in Sheridan County. With the family's permission, we are sharing that the child is immunocompromised.

Panhandle Public Health District (PPHD) and Gordon Memorial Hospital will be holding two public MMR vaccination clinics at the Rushville Clinic, 106 East 2nd Street, Rushville on Friday, June 6, from 2-6pm and Friday, June 13, from 2-6pm. If you do not have insurance, the vaccinations are covered through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. *Individuals on active monitoring for measles, please do not get vaccinated until your monitoring period is complete.*

To check you and your family's vaccination status against the measles, you can look up records at the following:

- **Nebraska Immunization Records Lookup** - https://nesiis-dhhs-prod.ne.gov/prd_ir/public/clientSearch.do?language=en



- **South Dakota Immunization Records Lookup** – <https://doh.sd.gov/topics/immunizations-vaccinations>
- **Nebraska Public Immunization Clinics** - <https://arcg.is/aXqie>

If you are experiencing measles symptoms, including fever along with a runny nose, cough, red and watery eyes, or a rash: please call 877-632-2856 to determine if testing is needed; **PLEASE DO NOT GO TO** Gordon Memorial Hospital or Gordon Clinic before calling.

PPHD, Gordon Memorial Hospital, and DHHS are working closely together to slow the spread of this highly contagious virus. Measles symptoms include fever, runny nose, cough, and rash. Although measles is usually considered a childhood disease, it can be contracted at any age. Generally, preschool children, adolescents, young adults, and inadequately immunized individuals comprise the majority of measles cases in the United States. There is no specific treatment for measles.

The Panhandle's measles response is a continuously evolving effort. For more information, visit <https://pphd.org/measlesinfo.html>, <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/mmr/public/index.html>, or <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/index.html>.

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