

This alert contains information on investigations in progress and/or diagnoses that may not yet be confirmed.

The Physician Alert is intended primarily for the use of local health care providers, should be considered privileged, and should NOT be distributed further.

## ADDENDUM FOR PHYSICIAN ALERT PUBLISHED JANUARY 27, 2015

On January 27, 2015, Washoe County Health District (WCHD) issued a Physician Alert entitled "Are You Ready for Measles?". The Immunization Program and Communicable Disease Program at WCHD received many phone calls from local health care providers (HCPs) expressing some confusion and concerns about the MMR vaccination schedule. The Physician Alert described special MMR vaccination schedule issues related to travel. To be clear, the Washoe County Health District is recommending<sup>1</sup>:



- ◆ Ensure all patients are up to date on MMR vaccine\* and other vaccines. Follow ACIP recommendations.
  - The first dose of MMR vaccine is recommended at 12 to 15 months of age.
  - The second dose of MMR vaccine is recommended at 4 to 6 years of age.
- ◆ For those who **travel abroad**, CDC recommends that all U.S. residents older than 6 months be protected from measles and receive MMR vaccine, prior to departure.
  - Infants 6 through 11 months old should receive 1 dose of MMR vaccine before departure.†
  - Children 12 months of age or older should have documentation of 2 doses of MMR vaccine (separated by at least 28 days). **Please note that this is a recommendation for those who travel abroad.**
  - Teenagers and adults without evidence of measles immunity\*\* should have documentation of 2 appropriately spaced doses of MMR vaccine.

\* Children 1 through 12 years of age may receive MMRV vaccine for protection against measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella.

† Infants who receive a dose of MMR vaccine before their first birthday should receive 2 more doses of MMR vaccine, the first of which should be administered when the child is 12 through 15 months of age and the second at least 28 days later.

\*\* One of the following is considered evidence of measles immunity for international travelers:

- 1) birth before 1957,
- 2) documented administration of 2 doses of live measles virus vaccine (MMR, MMRV, or measles vaccines),
- 3) laboratory (serologic) proof of immunity or laboratory confirmation of disease

Recommendations are subject to change based on whether there are any cases or any outbreak of measles in Washoe County. WCHD will keep local HCPs updated via Epi-News/Physician Alert.

<sup>1</sup> <http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00376.asp>