

Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)
Alabama Emergency Response Technology (ALERT)
Health Alert Network (HAN)
04/24/2019

Tennessee (TN) measles case travel through Alabama and made two stops

Key Message

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) has been notified of a infectious TN measles case who traveled through AL while infectious and made two stops on 4/11/2019. ADPH is investigating and will contact those exposed based on the information provided by the two locations. The two locations are D&J Travel Plaza in Livingston and Chick-Fil-A in Fort Payne, AL.

ADPH encourages all healthcare providers to

- Assess all patients' vaccination status
- Vaccinate all patients who do not have a history of 2 doses of MMR
- Review symptoms of measles
- Report the presumptive diagnoses immediately
- Collect and submit specimens for testing
- Consider measles in differential diagnosis

Key Facts

- Currently, AL has no measles cases.
- There are twenty two states with confirmed measles cases; Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Texas, Tennessee, and Washington.
- For more information on measles cases and outbreaks, please see <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>.
- A presumptive diagnosis of measles must be reported within 24 hours by physicians, nurses, hospital administrators, infection control practitioners, AND laboratory directors.
- To report presumptive measles, either report online, <https://epiweb.adph.state.al.us/redcap/surveys/?s=H37ENP8ADD>, or call ADPH Immunization Division at 1-800-469-4599 (24/7/365).

Specimen Collection and Shipping

- Providers should collect a throat swab or nasopharyngeal swab, and place in viral transport medium on all presumptive measles cases for their patients.
- ADPH will collect specimens for patients without a provider.
- Follow instructions below to properly collect and send specimens to the Bureau of Clinical Laboratories (BCL).
- The specimen should be refrigerated (2-8°C) until ready to ship.
- For shipping, the specimen should be placed in an insulated container with frozen ice packs.

- Complete a BCL Requisition Form for each specimen and test ordered, http://www.adph.org/bcl/assets/BCL_Requisition_Form.pdf. Include patient information, specimen collection date, date of symptom onset, as well as dates, locations of recent travel, and relevant vaccine history.
- Specimens may be dropped off at your local county health department to be couriered to the BCL overnight, or can be shipped directly to the BCL at 8140 AUM Drive, Montgomery, AL 36117 (at your expense).
- If you have questions about specimen collection and shipping, call the BCL at 334-260-3400 or email clab@adph.state.al.us.

A statewide news release is being issued today.

Primary Point of Contact:

Dr. Karen Landers, 256-246-1714

Secondary Points of Contact:

Dr. Burnestine Taylor, 334-206-5100

LyTasha Foster, 334-206-2030