

What you need
to know about

Measles

Early symptoms

High fever

Pinkeye

Runny nose

Cough



Later symptoms

High fever

Koplik's spots

small red spots with blue-white centers inside the mouth

Rash

typically appears on day four or five after exposure spreading from forehead downward



How the vaccine protects

Mothers who are immunized for measles pass protection for measles to their infants, but that protection begins to disappear in the first few months of an infant's life. As the protection fades, immunization becomes necessary between 12 and 15 months.

After receipt of one measles, mumps and rubella immunization (MMR) or measles, mumps, rubella and varicella immunization (MMRV), a child is 95 percent protected against measles. A booster dose is then given to a child around 4 to 6 years of age. This second dose is needed for complete protection from measles.



Help stop the spread of measles

Call your child's healthcare provider immediately if you suspect your child:

- Is not immunized against measles.
- Has been exposed to someone with measles.
- May have measles.



To prevent spreading the disease to other people, it's important to contact your child's healthcare provider **before** going to a clinic or office.



Discuss any vaccine-related decisions with your child's healthcare provider.



Remember that measles, a serious childhood disease, can be prevented with a vaccine. Vaccines prevent many harmful diseases and are safe.



Visit choa.org/measles for more information on how to protect your child and others from the spread of the measles.



Children's
Healthcare of Atlanta