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<b>To:</b>	General Practices, Pharmacists, After-Hours Centres and Emergency Departments in the greater Wellington and Wairarapa regions
<b>From:</b>	Dr Annette Nesdale, Medical Officer of Health
<b>Date:</b>	14 June 2016
<b>Title:</b>	Measles – 2 confirmed cases in the Wellington region

**Please distribute the following information to relevant staff in your organisation.**

If you would like to receive this by email please advise RPH of your email on [rph@huttvalleydhb.org.nz](mailto:rph@huttvalleydhb.org.nz).  
All public health alerts are available at [www.rph.org.nz](http://www.rph.org.nz) (health professionals – public health alerts)

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## Measles Alert – two confirmed cases in Wellington

Regional Public Health has been notified of **2 confirmed cases** of measles in the Wellington region. One was infected in Levin and the source of the other persons illness is still under investigation. Both were in quarantine while infectious so no direct secondary cases are expected from these two ill people. However, the on-going measles cases (17 confirmed cases) in the Levin/ Horowhenua area is concerning.

### Key actions for primary care at this time:

- Review your waiting room protocol; ensure early triage and the use of masks to avoid disease transmission to vulnerable patients.
- Be prepared to contact your patients who may have been exposed to a confirmed case of measles in your clinic or waiting area.
- Proactively identify and **offer MMR vaccination** to your patients aged **10 to 29 years** who have not previously had 2 measles vaccines.
- Offer early measles immunisation when requested by parents. Children aged 12 months and over can have their 15 month MMR early. Children who have had their 15 month MMR can have their 4 year old dose early, as long as it is at least 4 weeks since the first dose.
- Deliver MMR vaccinations to close contacts of a confirmed measles case when recommended by the Medical Officer of Health.
- Deliver Immunoglobulin to susceptible measles contacts when recommended by the Medical Officer of Health.
- Provide documentation of measles immunisations given, when requested. This information should be provided at no charge to the patient.
- **NOTIFY suspected cases of measles to Regional Public Health on 04 570 9002.**

**MMR vaccination is FREE for those who need it: if in doubt vaccinate**

### Resources

Posters for waiting rooms can be downloaded at [www.rph.org.nz](http://www.rph.org.nz) under the 'Health Professionals' tab (Communicable Diseases > Measles)

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