PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT

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То:	General Practices, Pharmacists, After-Hours Centres and Emergency Departments in the greater Wellington and Wairarapa regions
From:	Annette Nesdale, Medical Officer of Health
Date:	14 October 2016
Title:	Public Health Alert: Confirmed case of measles in Queenstown

Please distribute the following alert from the Ministry of Health 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.

All public health alerts are available at www.rph.org.nz (health professionals – public health alerts)

Potential measles contacts associated with a Queenstown hospitality worker

Public Health South has been notified of a confirmed case of measles in Queenstown. The person was infectious from 5th to 15th October and was at a number of locations (see list below) during this time period. Queenstown's tourism focus leads to a large number of visitors, both domestic and international. As such there is potential for the case to have had contacts that are now distributed across New Zealand. Susceptible people could show early signs of measles from Saturday 15th October (usually 10-14 days after exposure).

If you see someone with an illness consistent with measles please ask about potential exposure at the following locations:

- Seoul Garden Restaurant in O'Connell Mall, Queenstown from 5 9 October
- Bus service between Lake Hayes Estate and downtown Queenstown at 8.50am on 6 October
- Crew Stylists, Louis Vuitton Building, The Mall, Queenstown on 5 October
- Queenstown Medical Centre on 10th, 11th or 12th October

Suspected measles is notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health on 04 570 9002.

Further information on measles can be found at:

- www.rph.org.nz/content/9910a8bd-7bd0-42db-bf76-7fe45cbc5447.html
- www.health.govt.nz/your-health/conditions-and-treatments/diseases-and-illnesses/measles
- www.health.govt.nz/your-health/conditions-and-treatments/diseases-andillnesses/measles/measles-frequently-asked-questions



Suspected cases of measles need to be confirmed as a matter of urgency.

SUSPECTED CASE

MORBILLIFORM RASH

plus

FEVER 38C or higher still present at Rash Onset

plus

COUGH or CORYZA or CONJUNCTIVITIS or KOPLIK SPOTS

Skin rash + concurrent fever 38C or higher Highly suspicious for measles if -

- Prodromal illness 3-4 days prior
- Appears miserable
- Unimmunised or compromised immune system
- Returned from area with confirmed measles.
- Had contact with a confirmed case measles

If measles is a possibility, place patients in a separate area to avoid infecting others in the waiting room

Meets Clinical Case Definition?

- 1. Notify Regional Public Health urgently by phone (04 570 9002)
- 2. Arrange Laboratory testing by PCR (throat swab)
- 3. Advise patient to stay at home until 4 days have passed since the onset of the rash
- Ask about household members who are unvaccinated or had only one MMR vaccination and vaccinate within 72 hours if possible

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- 7-10 days post MMR vaccination
- rubella
- roseola infantum
- human parvovirus
- enteroviruses
- arboviruses
- Kawasaki syndrome
- drug hypersensitivity rash (may present many days after drug has been ceased)
- group A streptococcal disease (scarlet fever)