



Facsimile Cover Sheet /Wharangi Nama Waea

Date/Te Ra: **26 January 2012**

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| To/Kia: Staff at Primary Care Centres, After-hours Centres, Wellington Free Ambulance, Pharmacies, Emergency Departments in the Greater Wellington Region. | From/Na: Dr Margot McLean Medical Officer of Health Regional Public Health |
| Name of Agency/Wahi Mahi: | Fax Number/Nama Waea: |

Update on Measles – 2 further measles cases in Porirua

I would be grateful if you could distribute the following Public Health Alert regarding measles to relevant staff in your organisation.

There may be changes in our advice in response to the changing situation and case numbers, please check that you are referring to the most up to date Public Health Advice. A copy of the most recent Public Health Alert can be found on our website: <http://www.rph.org.nz>.

If you would also like to receive this by email for ease of distribution, storage and retrieval please advise RPH of your email on rph@huttvalleydhd.org.nz.

Kind regards

Dr Margot McLean
Medical Officer of Health

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He ture no nga korero katoa kei roto o tenei karere, no reira, kia tupato. Mehemea kaore matau kua e mau. Me whakamohiotia atu ki to Tari, me te mea nana i tono mai. E Tika Hoki.



Date: 26 January 2012

To: Staff at Primary Care Centres, After-hours Centres, Wellington Free Ambulance, Pharmacies and Emergency Departments in the Greater Wellington Region.

From: Dr Margot McLean, Medical Officer of Health, Regional Public Health

Public Health Alert

Two further measles cases in Porirua – no travel history to Auckland

Since the previous Public Health Alert of 9th January there have been 2 further cases of measles in Wellington. This brings the number of measles cases this year in the Wellington region to 3. All 3 cases are Pacific people living in Porirua.

The two recent cases did NOT travel outside of Wellington. One case was a 38 year old man who was a close contact of the earlier case. The other case was an unimmunised 2 year old child who did not have known contact with the other cases.

This raises the possibility of early community spread of measles in Porirua. Please have a high index of suspicion for measles, especially in people who may have been in contact with the cases, **or** who have recently been in Auckland, particularly Counties Manukau. Ensure that patients presenting with suspected measles are triaged on arrival to minimise contact with other patients and staff.

Prior to diagnosis and while infectious the two recent cases attended:

- Pacific Health Services Porirua on 13th and 16th January 2012, and
- Kenepuru A&M on January 13th, 14th and 16th.

Susceptible waiting room contacts have been informed where possible. They may develop initial symptoms until Monday January 30th.

Please notify **all suspected cases who fit the case definition and you are testing for acute measles** to Regional Public Health. During working hours, call the notifications line on 570 9267. After hours notify the on-call medical officer of health via 04 570 9002.

Refer to the public health alert of 28 October regarding recommended testing for measles and immunisation: <http://www.rph.org.nz>