

EPI Update for Friday, February 6, 2015
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Measles vaccination recommendations for health care providers**
- **Measles update**
- **Influenza update**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

Measles vaccination recommendations for health care workers

Because health care workers are at high risk of exposure to measles, particularly when measles is spreading in the U.S., it is strongly recommended that all persons who work in health care facilities (regardless of age) should have two documented doses of MMR vaccine, proof of immunity (i.e. positive measles IgG), or laboratory confirmation of disease (i.e. virus isolation).

To view the health care recommendation, visit

[www.idph.state.ia.us/EHI/Issue.aspx?issue=Measles Outbreak&pg=Health Information for Medical Providers.](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/EHI/Issue.aspx?issue=Measles%20Outbreak&pg=Health%20Information%20for%20Medical%20Providers)

Measles update

As of Friday, February 6th, NO cases of measles have been identified in Iowa. As of February 2nd, 102 confirmed cases of measles have occurred in 14 states.

Confirmed cases of measles have been identified in states surrounding Iowa including Illinois (six), Minnesota (one), Nebraska (two), and South Dakota (14). None have reported travel to Iowa during their infectious periods; nevertheless, local public health partners and those in health care systems are encouraged to share IDPH measles updates and information about consulting on possible measles cases (see below) with all health care providers. For additional information about measles activity in the U.S., visit www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html.

When a patient is suspected of having measles, the health care provider should contact IDPH immediately (while patient is still available). To reach IDPH during business hours, call 800-362-2736 and after hours, call 515-323-4360 (the Iowa State Patrol will contact the person on call).

Influenza update

Influenza activity remains widespread in Iowa but it has been gradually decreasing. IDPH continues to receive reports of influenza-related hospitalization and outbreaks in long term care facilities and schools. There have been 54 reported influenza outbreaks in Iowa long term care facilities this influenza season (since October 1, 2014).

For more information on the influenza activity in Iowa, visit

www.idph.state.ia.us/Cade/Influenza.aspx?pg=FluSurveillance (the report is updated each Friday afternoon).

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

None

Have a healthy and happy week!

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800-362-2736