



# Vaccine Update 462 – Measles Update

## Measles alert: reminders

WA Health has issued a measles alert following recent cases detected in returned overseas travellers. There have been 47 cases of measles identified in WA in 2025 year to date.

Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine coverage has decreased in recent years and fallen below the 95% coverage target to achieve herd immunity and reduce the spread of measles. MMR childhood vaccination coverage for 2 year olds in WA is below 90%. Measles remains highly infectious and even a single case can lead to local transmission in under-immunised communities.

Immunisation providers are encouraged to:

- Remain vigilant for measles symptoms, especially in patients who have recently travelled internationally or been exposed to recent travellers.
- Review immunisation records and use reminder/recall systems for patients who may be overdue for MMR vaccination.
- Offer opportunistic vaccination to eligible individuals, including adolescents and adults born after 1965 who have not already received two doses of MMR vaccine.
- Discuss measles vaccination with parents of infants aged 6 months to under 12 months, who are travelling overseas to countries experiencing a measles outbreak.
- Report suspected cases immediately to your local Public Health Unit to support a timely public health response.

For clinical guidance and resources, refer to:

- WA Health Measles immunisation program
- Measles chapter in The Australian Immunisation Handbook
- NCIRS Measles FAQs

The National Immunisation Program (NIP) and the Western Australian Department of Health provide measles-containing vaccines for individuals most at risk in Western Australia, including:

- infants aged 6 months to under 12 months, who are travelling overseas to countries experiencing a measles outbreak (after an individual risk assessment), or to infants between 6 and 12 months of age if they have recently been exposed to someone with measles while they were infectious
- children at 12 months and 18 months
- individuals born after 1965 who have not already received two doses of MMR vaccine.

Ensure your patients are up to date with measles immunisation to help protect the whole community and prevent further outbreaks.

**This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.**

© Department of Health 2025

Copyright to this material is vested in the State of Western Australia unless otherwise indicated. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the provisions of the Copyright Act 1968, no part may be reproduced or re-used for any purposes whatsoever without written permission of the State of Western Australia.

[health.wa.gov.au](https://health.wa.gov.au)