

# Should I test for measles?

## A Guide for Arkansas Healthcare Providers



### Consider the patient's clinical presentation:

Does the patient have fever, rash (beginning on the face and progressing downwards), and conjunctivitis, cough, or runny nose?

If **NO**, not measles, no testing required. 

If **YES**, continue.



### Consider the patient's history;

Was the patient born before 1957 **or** have documented history of receiving MMR?

#### Yes to either

patient was born before 1957 **or** has a history of receiving 2 doses of MMR

In the 21 days prior to symptom onset, was there any of the following:

- known exposure to infected person
- international travel
- contact with international travelers
- travel to outbreak state (refer to CDC website)
- contact with travelers from an outbreak state

**If No:** Measles unlikely, provide education



**If Yes:** Is there an alternate explanation for the rash? (antibiotics, strep, mono)

**Yes:** Not measles, no testing required



**No:** Measles unlikely, but out of an abundance of caution, may choose to

Isolate  
Call  
Collect

#### No to both

patient was born after 1957 **and** does not have a history of receiving 2 doses of MMR

In the 21 days prior to symptom onset, was there any of the following:

- known exposure to infected person
- international travel
- contact with international travelers
- travel to outbreak state
- contact with travelers from an outbreak state

**If Yes to any:**

Isolate  
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**If No:** Has the patient been symptomatic for > 10 days?

**Yes:** Measles unlikely, call your ADH Outbreak Response Staff, (501) 661-2381.

**No**

Isolate  
Call  
Collect

### ISOLATE

Isolate the patient according to airborne precautions.

### CALL

Call  
ADH Outbreak Response Staff  
(501) 661-2381  
after hours 1-800-554-5738

### COLLECT

Collect specimens for laboratory testing.

*Throat swab or NP swab in Viral Transport Medium (VTM) and Serology. Consult with ADH Outbreak Response Staff on how to submit to ADH Lab.*