

Should I test for measles?



A guide for South Dakota Healthcare Providers

Consider the patient's clinical presentation:

Fever and rash?

If **NO**, measles unlikely, provide education.

If **YES**, continue.

Consider the patient's history:

- Patient born before 1957?
- Patient has a documented history of receiving MMR vaccine?

PRODROME

- Fever (as high as 105F)
- Cough
- Coryza
- Conjunctivitis

RASH

- Erythematous and maculopapular
- Appears 3 to 5 days after symptoms begin
- May become confluent (especially on face)
- Starts at hair line then spreads downward

KOPLIK'S SPOTS

- Bluish gray specks on bright red mucosa
- Appears 2 to 3 days after symptoms begin
- May be present

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 w/ international travelers
- ? travel to outbreak state
- ? contact w/ travelers from an outbreak state

If NO
Measles unlikely, provide education

If YES
Is there an alternate explanation for a rash?
(antibiotics, strep, mono)

YES
Not measles, no testing required.

NO
Has the patient been symptomatic for >10 days?

YES
Not measles, no testing required.

NO
Measles unlikely, but out of an abundance of caution, may choose to
CALL

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 w/ international travelers
- ? travel to outbreak state
- ? contact w/ travelers from an outbreak state

If YES to any
ISOLATE CALL COLLECT

If NO to all
Has the patient been symptomatic for >10 days?

YES
Measles unlikely.
CALL
your local health department for consultation.

NO
ISOLATE CALL COLLECT

ISOLATE

Isolate the patient according to airborne precautions.
Mask and Negative Pressure.

CALL

Call the South Dakota Department of Health
800-592-1861

COLLECT

Collect specimens for laboratory testing.
Throat swab on VTM and blood drawn. Consult with public health for submission to lab.