



## Public Health Administration

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONTINUES MEASLES INVESTIGATION, URGES RESIDENTS TO BE AWARE OF SYMPTOMS**

**(Oroville, CA)** – Butte County Public Health (BCPH) continues to investigate confirmed cases of measles in Butte County. At this time, there are two locations in Chico identified as locations for public exposure to measles. Public Health and Enloe Medical Center staff will contact people who are believed to have been in these locations during the exposure timeframe. If you have not been contacted and believe you may have been exposed, you can call (530) 552-3929 to speak with Public Health staff.

The following locations have been identified as a possible location for public exposure. **Please note, additional dates have been added to The Esplanade House location:**

- The Esplanade House, 181 E Shasta Ave., in Chico during the period from March 5-9 and March 15-19.
- Enloe Medical Center Emergency Room in Chico on March 19, 2019 from 8:30-9:00 am.
- If you were at these specific locations during the indicated timeframe, you can call (530) 552-3929 to speak with Public Health officials Monday-Friday from 8 am to 5 pm.
- The public contact and exposure investigation is still active. Additional exposure locations may be identified and announced in the future.

If you have not been at the identified public exposure locations during the indicated timeframe, you do not need to call BCPH. If you have previously received the measles vaccination, you do not need to call BCPH. Residents can verify their vaccinations status by referring to their yellow vaccination card or a printed vaccination record obtained from their primary care provider. If your provider participates in the California Immunization Registry (CAIR), you can request your records online at: <http://cairweb.org/docs/CAIR2AuthorizationToRelease.pdf>. BCPH is not able to verify your vaccination status unless you received your vaccination at the public health clinic.

BCPH urges residents to be aware of measles symptoms and to take precautions to help stop the spread of measles. The best way to stop the spread of measles is to get vaccinated. People who have received two doses of the measles vaccine (MMR) have less than 1% chance of contracting the disease after exposure.

According to the CDC, you are considered to have lifelong protection from measles if you have received two doses of the MMR vaccination. You do not need an MMR booster later in life.

For more information about measles vaccination, exposure and testing, visit the [CDC measles frequently asked questions](#) website.

Measles is a highly contagious, viral disease that is spread through the air when a person sick with the disease coughs or sneezes. Symptoms begin with fever, cough, runny nose and red, watery eyes. These symptoms are followed by a rash that typically appears on the face along the hairline or behind the ears and spreads to the rest of the body. An individual is infectious from four days before the rash starts through four days after the rash appears

Complications of measles can include diarrhea, ear infections and pneumonia. Severe complications can be fatal. **Infants, pregnant women and people with a weakened immune system are more at risk for complications from measles.**

**Prevent the spread of measles:**

- If you don't think you ever had been vaccinated for measles (with MMR vaccine or MMRV vaccine), contact your healthcare provider for vaccination. Another option is to have a doctor test your blood to determine whether you're immune, but this option is likely to cost more and will take two doctor's visits. There is no harm in getting another dose of MMR vaccine if you may already be immune to measles (or mumps or rubella).
- If you think you have been exposed to measles, call your healthcare provider for advice.
- If you think you have symptoms of measles: **Immediately call your doctor** and let him or her know about your symptoms you are having. **DO NOT** go to a clinic, hospital or physician's office before calling their facility and do not go into public places to prevent spreading the disease to others. Your doctor can:
  - Determine if you are immune to measles based on your vaccination record or if you had measles in the past, and
  - Make special arrangements to evaluate you, if needed, without putting other patients and medical office staff at risk.

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