

**Date:** June 24, 2025  
**Subject:** Measles Memo for Daycares  
**To:** Parents and Caregivers  
**From:** Dr. Rebecca Comley, Acting Medical Officer of Health

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As measles activity continues in the region, Grand Erie Public Health is encouraging residents to prepare for the summer of 2025 with measles in mind. Most measles cases occur among unvaccinated/under-vaccinated school-aged children; this may pose a possibility of measles exposure at summer camps, including day camps and overnight camps.

**Parents and caregivers should ensure that children have two doses of measles containing vaccine and have proof of vaccination readily available in the event of a measles exposure.**

### **What is Measles?**

Measles is a highly contagious disease caused by a virus. It spreads easily through the air when an infected person breathes, coughs, or sneezes, and it can lead to serious illness and complications.

Common symptoms include:

- Fever
- Runny nose
- Cough
- Red eyes
- A red rash that begins on the face and spreads down the body

Symptoms typically begin 7 to 21 days after exposure. Individuals are contagious from four days before to four days after the rash appears.

### **How do I prevent measles?**

Measles is highly contagious but preventable with immunization. Receiving two doses of the measles vaccine is the best way to protect against the virus. Parents and caregivers should check vaccination records to confirm their child (and all family members) are up to date with measles vaccinations.

In Ontario, the current childhood vaccine schedule includes two doses of measles-containing vaccine: the MMR vaccine (measles, mumps, rubella) at 12 months-of-age and the MMRV vaccine (measles, mumps, rubella, varicella) at 4-6 years-of-age. **Due to the measles outbreak, children should receive the second dose of measles-containing vaccine as soon as possible**, even before the age of four. Those who are unsure of their vaccination status or require vaccination are asked to contact their healthcare provider to get caught up with vaccine before the start of camp.

To book an appointment with Grand Erie Public Health vaccination clinics please visit our website:

- Brantford-Brant: <https://forms.bchu.org/measlesbooking>
- Haldimand-Norfolk: <https://forms.bchu.org/gicbookingnhu>

### **What should I do if my child is exposed to measles?**

Anyone born in or after 1970 who has not received two doses of a measles containing vaccine (at least four weeks apart) or has not had measles before, is at risk of infection if exposed to measles.

If your child is exposed to measles, please keep them home from camp for 21 days from last exposure unless they have proof of immunity. If they have proof of immunity, they can continue to attend camp if they do not have any symptoms. Acceptable proof of immunity or vaccination is a yellow immunization card or physician/public health record print out. Verbal reports will not be accepted.

Children who previously received one dose of measles vaccine may return to camp prior to 21 days, once a second dose of measles-containing vaccine had been received.

**Anyone with unknown immunization status, unvaccinated or partially vaccinated is considered at risk of measles and will be advised not to attend summer camp until advised by public health.**

In the event of an exposure at summer camp or daycare, Grand Erie Public Health will work closely with camp/daycare operators to assess risk of exposure and advise next steps.

Assessment of immunization records will be undertaken. Parents and caregivers should ensure that vaccination records are easily accessible.

Parents and caregivers wishing to report immunization to public health directly or for more information about measles, please visit our website: [www.bchu.org/measles](http://www.bchu.org/measles) / [www.hnhu.org/measles](http://www.hnhu.org/measles).

Grand Erie Public Health is wishing you and your children a safe and healthy summer.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rebecca Comley

Medical Officer of Health

Grand Erie Public Health

*(Formerly the Brant County Health Unit and Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit)*