

Secondary Measles Case in the Auckland Region – Call for Vigilance

- A secondary case of measles has been diagnosed in Auckland.
- This person is likely to have caught measles from the case on the Singapore Airlines flight that arrived on 22 February.
- This person may have exposed other people around AUT's city campus, the CBD and Albany Westfield shopping centre.
- Public health is asking primary care to remain vigilant for measles over the next few weeks and to promote opportunistic MMR vaccination whenever possible.

13 March 2018

A secondary case of measles has been diagnosed in Auckland. The case travelled on the same flight SQ 285 as the first case, just over two weeks ago. This second case was contacted by the Auckland Regional Public Health Service (ARPHS) as part of its contact tracing.

The student at AUT city campus attended classes and visited a number of food venues in the central business district and Albany Westfield shopping centre between 01 March and 06 March 2018.

This means if there are any further cases, they will appear from today until 20 March.

We request General Practitioners be vigilant.

1. **Consider measles** in a febrile illness (38°C or higher) with cough, conjunctivitis, coryza, and examine for Koplik spots. The rash of measles appears a few days later usually starting on the face or behind the ears and spreads to the rest of the body.
2. **Isolate** suspect cases to avoid contact with other patients in the waiting room.
3. **Arrange appropriate lab testing for suspected cases.** PCR is preferred (using red viral nasopharyngeal or throat swab) if within 3 days of rash onset.
4. **Exclude** cases from school, work, other institutions and social interaction while waiting for the laboratory results. Should a rash appear, then exclude for 5 days from its onset.
5. **Notify** ARPHS (09) 623 4600 **on suspicion of measles. Please do not wait for the lab results.**
6. **Advise good hand hygiene and cough etiquette practice** for all suspected cases and their contacts in household, school or work environments.
7. **Check and administer MMR immunisation** opportunistically for all patients who are susceptible.