

April 9, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We at Adams County Health Department (ACHD) are dedicated to improving public health and the well-being of our community. We are closely monitoring current measles cases across the United States, including outbreaks in our neighboring states of Texas and New Mexico; and in Colorado.

Measles is an airborne virus that can remain in the air for up to two hours after an infected person with measles leaves an area, making it highly contagious for unvaccinated children and adults. Measles is one of the most contagious diseases. One person infected with measles can infect 12 to 18 individuals who are not vaccinated.

Ways to protect yourself and your family:

1. Know if you've been vaccinated.
   If you are unsure if you or your child have been vaccinated against measles, please use these resources to find your vaccine records.
   Military Records: https://www.tricare.mil/records
   Colorado Records: https://copublicportal.state.co.us/
   Other State Records: https://www.cdc.gov/iis/contacts-locate-records/

2. Vaccinate against measles. Do you need a vaccine?
   Contact your primary health care provider, clinic, or our ACHD Immunization Clinic at 303-451-0123 today.
   Our immunization clinic offers low- to no-cost vaccines for uninsured individuals, as well as those on Medicaid, CHP+, and most privately insured individuals. Please note that we are unable to serve clients with Denver Health Medicaid and select private insurance plans. Thank you for helping us keep our community healthy and safe!

What should I know about vaccinating against measles?

- Vaccination is the best protection against measles.
- Children are recommended to receive two doses of measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine.
- The first dose is given at 12–15 months of age.
- The second dose is given at 4–6 years of age, before kindergarten entry.
- Older children and adolescents need two documented doses of MMR vaccine to be considered fully protected. Doses should be separated by at least 28 days.

Why should I worry about measles?

- Measles is not just a rash. It can cause life-long problems like hearing loss and brain damage, and it puts one in five infected people in the hospital. In the most serious cases, it can lead to respiratory failure and death.
- Measles spreads easily. It can hang around in the air for up to two hours after an infected person has left the area. If one person has it, nine out of 10 people who are unprotected around them will get measles.
- If there's an outbreak of measles at school or childcare, all children who are not protected may have to stay home and quarantine for at least 21 days. This can be a big problem for families, causing a disruption in their learning and keeping parents and guardians home from work.

Our Immunization Clinic serves our community by appointments throughout the week and walk-in services each Wednesday. We provide vaccines for the whole family, including the MMR vaccine, information on safe and effective vaccines, and recommendations based on your health and preferences for the vaccinations you choose. Please reach out with any questions about your child or family's vaccination status, as well as any questions you have about measles or other vaccine-preventable diseases.

CONTACT INFORMATION/LINKS FOR OUR OFFICE

Address: 1401 W 122nd Ave #200 Westminster, CO 80234
Phone: 303-451-0123
website: adamscountyhealthdepartment.org/immunizations
email: immunizations@adcogov.org

