

Rubella

Agent: Rubella virus

Mode of Transmission: Person-to-person transmission through contact with nose and throat secretions from infected people. The virus may also be transmitted from mother to child during pregnancy, causing congenital rubella syndrome in the infant.

Signs/Symptoms: Fever and rash, with frequent occurrences of arthralgia, arthritis, and lymphadenopathy.

Prevention: Vaccination, preferably administered as MMR vaccine, beginning at 12 months of age.

Other Important Information: In 2004, rubella was declared to be no longer endemic in the United States.

No cases of rubella were reported in Virginia during 2009. The last case in Virginia was reported in 2001.