

TIMING IS EVERYTHING

for protection against measles



Vaccination works best prior to exposure.



There is a short amount of time after a measles exposure when MMR vaccine or immune globulin can be given to provide protection against infection or reduce the risk of serious illness.

- MMR vaccine is given within 72 hours of first exposure to people who can receive MMR vaccine.
- Immune globulin (IG) can be given within six days of first exposure. IG is not a vaccine and provides short-term protection against measles. People who get IG and are eligible for MMR vaccination should wait at least six months before getting the MMR vaccine.



Stop the spread of measles by staying home and away from others if you are unprotected and exposed to measles. This will help keep other people from getting sick.



If you are sick with measles, stay home and away from others.

MEASLES	
Incubation period (time from contact with virus and symptoms begin)	7-21 days
First symptoms show (usually begin with fever, cough, runny, nose, and red eyes)	7-14 days after contact with the virus
Measles rash (usually begins as flat red spots on the face at the hairline. They then spread downward.)	3-5 days after symptoms begin
Contagious period (can spread to others)	Stay home 4 days before through 4 days after rash appears

A TIMELINE GUIDE

IDEAL TIMELINE



Vaccination
(2 weeks prior to exposure)



Exposure to Measles



Staying home not needed

LESS THAN IDEAL TIMELINE



Exposure to Measles



Vaccination
(within 3 days of exposure)



Staying home not needed after vaccination

LESS THAN IDEAL TIMELINE



Exposure to Measles



Immune globulin
(within 6 days of exposure)



Staying home needed for 28 days from exposure

LEAST IDEAL TIMELINE



Exposure to Measles



No vaccination or Immune globulin



Staying home needed for 21 days from exposure