

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE March 7, 2025

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Measles Preparedness**

The Texas Department of State Health Service (DSHS) is reporting a measles outbreak in the South Plains and Panhandle regions of Texas. Currently, there have been no cases of measles reported in the City of Dallas. However, the Office of Emergency Management & Crisis Response (ECR) is coordinating with Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) to ensure that we are prepared if cases are detected.

Measles is a highly contagious viral infection, which can cause life-threatening illness to anyone who is not vaccinated. Measles can be prevented with the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine. The most effective way for the community to be protected is for everyone to be immunized.

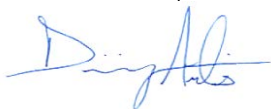
Based on data provided by DSHS, DCHHS is proactively working with Dallas schools that have low immunization rates to provide them with information about measles, as well as hosting on-site immunization clinics. Additionally, residents under 18 can receive the MMR vaccine at their clinic, located at 2377 N. Stemmons Freeway. For those that have questions about their vaccination status, their level of immunity, or if they need another immunization, they should contact their healthcare provider.

BioTel, Dallas Fire-Rescue's (DFR) medical direction provider, has published guidance for EMS personnel should they encounter an individual that is exhibiting symptoms of measles. Please feel free to reach out to DFR Medical Director, Dr. Marshal Isaacs, at marshal.isaacsutsmc@dallas.gov should you have any questions about it.

Attached to this memorandum, you will find several documents in English and Spanish that DCHHS has published and shared with residents, daycares, and schools. Please feel free to help amplify these through the communications channels you have with your constituents.

Should you have any questions about how the City of Dallas is preparing for potential measles cases, please contact Kevin Oden, ECR Director, at kevin.oden@dallas.gov.

Service First, Now!



Dominique Artis
Chief of Public Safety

[Attachment]

DATE March 7, 2025
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c: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager
 Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
 Mark Swann, City Auditor
 Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
 Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
 Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager
 M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager

 Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager
 Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager
 Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager
 Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
 Elizabeth Saab, Chief of Strategy, Engagement, and Alignment (I)
 Directors and Assistant Directors

Vaccines can help you stay healthy. Get yours now.

- 1 Enter your ZIP code
- 2 Choose a pharmacy
- 3 Call or visit their website to check vaccine availability and make an appointment to get a vaccine

Enter 5-digit ZIP code

Powered by VaccineFinder

**RISK LESS.
DO MORE.**
Get this season's vaccines

DCHHS Childhood Immunization Clinics



SCAN FOR MORE INFO

- We serve children 18 years and younger.
- Cost: \$10 first visit, \$5 subsequent visit.
- Walk-ins welcome.

✓ DCHHS Immunization Clinic
2377 N. Stemmons Fwy Suite 141
Dallas, TX 75207

✓ Carrollton-Farmers Branch Immunization Clinic
2774 Valwood Pkwy
Farmers Branch, TX 75234

✓ Garland Immunization Clinic
206 Carver St.
Garland, TX 75040

✓ Irving Immunization Clinic
440 S. Nursery Rd.
Irving, TX 75060

✓ John West Immunization Clinic
3312 N. Buckner Blvd. suite 200
Dallas, TX 75228

✓ Oak Cliff Immunization Clinic
1113 E. Jefferson Blvd. suite 200
Dallas, TX 75203

✓ Richardson Immunization Clinic
1411 W. Beltline Rd.
Richardson, TX 75080



CALL US!

214-819-2163
214-819-2176

Hours: Monday-Friday 8 am - 11:30 am and 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Hours Garland Clinic: Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 7:30 am - 5:30 pm (Closed on Wed)

Las vacunas pueden ayudarlo a mantenerse saludable. Consiga la suya ahora.

- 1 Ingrese su código postal
- 2 Elija una farmacia
- 3 Llame o visite su sitio web para verificar la disponibilidad de la vacuna y programe una cita para recibir una vacuna.

Ingrese el código postal de 5 dígitos

Desarrollado por VaccineFinder

**MENOS RIESGO.
HACIENDO MÁS.**
Obtenga las vacunas
de esta temporada

Clínicas de vacunación infantil del DCHHS

- **Atendemos a niños menores de 18 años de edad.**
- **Costo: \$10 para la primera consulta; \$5 para consultas posteriores.**
- **Los pacientes pueden presentarse sin cita previa.**



ESCANEE PARA OBTENER
MÁS INFORMACIÓN

✓ Clínica de vacunación del DCHHS
2377 N. Stemmons Fwy Suite 141
Dallas, TX 75207

✓ Clínica de vacunación de Carrollton-Farmers Branch
2774 Valwood Pkwy
Farmers Branch, TX 75234

✓ Clínica de vacunación de Garland
206 Carver St.
Garland, TX 75040

✓ Clínica de vacunación de Irving
440 S. Nursery Rd.
Irving, TX 75060

✓ Clínica de vacunación de John West
3312 N. Buckner Blvd, suite 200
Dallas, TX 75228

✓ Clínica de vacunación de Oak Cliff
1113 E. Jefferson Blvd, suite 200
Dallas, TX 75203

✓ Clínica de vacunación de Richardson
1411 W. Beltline Rd.
Richardson, TX 75080



¡LLÁMENOS!
214-819-2163
214-819-2176

Horario de atención: Lunes a viernes de 8:00 a. m. a 11:30 a. m. y de 12:30 p. m. a 3:30 p. m.

Horario de atención de la Clínica Garland: Lunes, martes, jueves y viernes de 7:30 a. m. a 5:30 p. m. (cerrado los miércoles)



2/27/2025

Subject: Important Health Notice for Parents Regarding the Ongoing Measles Outbreak in Texas

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) is closely monitoring an active measles outbreak in Texas. Tragically, the state has reported the first death of a child from measles, a heartbreaking reminder of how dangerous this disease can be. Measles is one of the most contagious viruses, spreading through the air and lingering in indoor spaces for hours. It can cause severe complications, including pneumonia, brain swelling, and even death—especially in young children and individuals with weakened immune systems. Unvaccinated individuals are at the highest risk of contracting and spreading the disease.

To help prevent the spread of measles, we urge you to take the following steps now:

1. Check your child's vaccination records. The Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine is the best protection against measles. If your child has not received two doses, contact your pediatrician or a local health clinic to schedule vaccination. The MMR vaccine is safe, highly effective, and widely available.
2. Be aware of measles symptoms, which include fever, cough, runny nose, red eyes, and a rash that spreads over the body.

Given the severity of this outbreak, we want to inform you of the potential consequences if a measles case is identified on your child's school campus, especially if your child is not vaccinated. If a case of measles is identified at your child's school, DCHHS will work with school officials to protect students, staff, and the community. If your child is not vaccinated, they may be subject to the following measures:

1. **Exclusion from School:** Texas law requires the exclusion of unvaccinated students exposed to measles under Texas Administrative Code, Rule 97.7. These students must stay home for up to 21 days, the length of the incubation period, to prevent further spread of the virus.
2. **Medical Follow-Up:** Parents will be advised to seek immediate medical evaluation for their child. In some cases, post-exposure vaccination or immune globulin treatment may be recommended within a limited timeframe.
3. **Impact on Education and Activities:** Exclusion from school may disrupt your child's learning and participation in extracurricular activities. These measures are based on public health guidelines and are necessary to protect vulnerable populations, including infants, pregnant individuals, and those with weakened immune systems who cannot be vaccinated.

For more information on measles, the MMR vaccine, or to find vaccination services, please visit <https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/communicable-diseases/measles.php> or contact DCHHS at (972) 692-2780.

We understand that this may cause concern, but we are committed to keeping your children and our schools safe. Your support in ensuring vaccination and following health guidelines is crucial to protecting our community. Thank you for your partnership in promoting health and safety.

Philip Huang, MD, MPH
Director/Health Authority
Dallas County Health and Human Services



2/27/2025

Asunto: Aviso de salud importante para padres respecto al brote actual de sarampión en Texas

Estimados padres y tutores:

El Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos del Condado de Dallas (DCHHS) está monitoreando de cerca un brote activo de sarampión en Texas. Trágicamente, el estado ha informado de la primera muerte de un niño por sarampión, un recordatorio desgarrador de lo peligrosa que puede ser esta enfermedad. El sarampión es uno de los virus más contagiosos. Se propaga por el aire y permanece en espacios interiores durante horas. Puede provocar complicaciones graves, tales como neumonía, inflamación cerebral e incluso la muerte, especialmente en niños pequeños y personas con sistemas inmunológicos debilitados. Las personas sin vacunar corren el mayor riesgo de contraer y propagar la enfermedad.

Para ayudar a prevenir la propagación del sarampión, les instamos a tomar las siguientes medidas ahora mismo:

1. Revisen el registro de vacunación de su hijo. La vacuna triple viral contra el sarampión, las paperas y la rubéola (MMR) es la mejor protección contra el sarampión. Si su hijo no ha recibido dos dosis, comuníquense con su pediatra o con una clínica de salud local para programar la vacunación. La vacuna MMR es segura, muy eficaz y ampliamente disponible.
2. Tengan cuidado con los síntomas del sarampión, que incluyen fiebre, tos, secreción nasal, ojos rojos y un sarpullido que se extiende por todo el cuerpo.

Dada la gravedad de este brote, queremos informarles sobre las posibles consecuencias si se identifica un caso de sarampión en el campus escolar de su hijo, especialmente si no está vacunado. Si se identifica un caso de sarampión en la escuela de su hijo, el DCHHS trabajará con los funcionarios escolares para proteger a los estudiantes, al personal y a la comunidad. Si su hijo no está vacunado, podrá estar sujeto a las siguientes medidas:

1. **Exclusión de la escuela.** La ley de Texas exige la exclusión de estudiantes sin vacunar expuestos al sarampión, de conformidad con la norma 97.7 de Código Administrativo de Texas. Estos estudiantes deben quedarse en casa hasta por 21 días (la duración del período de incubación) para evitar una mayor propagación del virus.
2. **Seguimiento médico.** Se aconsejará a los padres que busquen una evaluación médica inmediata para su hijo. En algunos casos, puede recomendarse la vacunación posterior a la exposición o un tratamiento con inmunoglobulina dentro de un período de tiempo limitado.
3. **Impacto en la educación y las actividades.** La exclusión de la escuela puede interrumpir el aprendizaje de su hijo y su participación en actividades extracurriculares. Estas medidas se basan en pautas de salud pública y son necesarias para proteger a las poblaciones vulnerables, incluyendo bebés, personas embarazadas y personas con sistemas inmunológicos debilitados que no pueden vacunarse.

Para obtener más información sobre el sarampión, la vacuna MMR o para encontrar servicios de vacunación, visiten <https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/communicable-diseases/measles.php> o comuníquense con el DCHHS llamando al (972) 692-2780.

Entendemos que esto puede causar preocupación, pero estamos comprometidos a mantener a sus hijos y nuestras escuelas seguros. Su apoyo para garantizar la vacunación y seguir las pautas de salud es crucial para proteger a nuestra comunidad. Gracias por su colaboración en la promoción de la salud y la seguridad.

Philip Huang, MD, MPH

Director/Autoridad de salud

Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos del Condado de Dallas