

Grant County Health District – Always Working for a Healthier and Safer Grant County

Ephrata Office County Courthouse
PO Box 37, Ephrata, WA 98823
509-754-6060

Moses Lake Office
1038 West Ivy Suite 1, Moses Lake WA 98837
509-766-7960



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 05/23/08 TO: Emergency Rooms in Grant County Walk-in Clinics in Grant County Healthcare Provider Offices in Grant County EMS Providers in Grant County Healthcare Emergencies Alliance	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT Alexander Brzezny, MD, MPH, Grant County Health Officer Peggy Grigg, RN, BSN, Director of Personal Health Services/Administrator
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**- GRANT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT -
18 Cases of Measles Confirmed**

As of Friday, May 23, 2008, the Grant County Health District has confirmed **18 cases of measles** in Grant County. The most recent additional two cases have been epidemiologically linked to previously identified cases; there were no close contacts related to school setting as a result of these new cases. All were Moses Lake residents at the time of their exposure. This public health alert is to advise healthcare providers and EMS providers of the current situation.

REMINDERS

WHEN TESTING A PATIENT FOR MEASLES

Please notify Grant County Health District if you choose to test a patient for measles. This will assist us in expediting the investigation and assure a rapid response to help control the spread of the disease. Please also notify us immediately in the event of an exposure within your facility. 509-754-6060, or after hours, 509-398-2083.

MMR VACCINATIONS

During the outbreak public health officials are recommending children receive the first MMR vaccine at 12 months and their second MMR when eligible (28 days after the first). Varicella and MMR should be separated by 28 days.

CLINICAL CRITERIA FOR MEASLES

- a generalized rash lasting ≥ 3 days AND
- a temperature $\geq 101.0^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($\geq 38.3^{\circ}\text{C}$), AND
- one or more of these: cough, coryza, or conjunctivitis

AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS

Airborne precautions must be implemented when attending to patients who present with a rash illness. Patient **MUST** wear a mask (usually a surgical mask) **BEFORE** they enter the facility. The Grant County Health District is advising parents concerned about any illness to **FIRST CALL** their physician's office before coming to the clinic.