

# Evaluating Patients for Measles

The decision to test should be based on clinical symptoms and the risk factors listed below.



## Initial Symptoms

### 7-21 days post exposure

- High fever (may spike to  $>104^{\circ}\text{F}$ )
- Cough
- Conjunctivitis (red eyes)
- Coryza (runny nose)
- Koplik Spots (small bluish spots surrounded by red region on the inside of cheek)



## Rash

### 3-5 days after fever onset

A red, blotchy rash begins on the face at the hairline and progresses downward and outward towards the hands and feet.



## Travel

### 21 days before onset

- Has the patient traveled anywhere in the last 21 days where measles cases have been reported?
- Has the patient had contact with someone who has measles?



## MMR Vaccination

The best way to prevent measles is to get vaccinated.



1 dose is **92-95%** effective  
against measles



2 doses are **97-99%** effective  
against measles

**Suspect a patient has measles? Call Iowa HHS immediately**

**Business hours: 1-800-362-2736 | After Hours: 515-323-4360**

- Iowa HHS will arrange specimen transport and testing at the state public health lab
- The patient should be instructed to remain at home until test results are complete (typically 48 hours)
- The patient exam room and common areas (hallways, waiting room, entrance, etc.) should be closed for two hours after the patient was last present in the specific area