

## Public Health Alert



Issued: 13 March 2024  
Issued to: Health Staff NT wide

### Outbreaks of measles are reported worldwide

- Be measles protected with **FREE** measles vaccines

#### Summary

- In the past week NSW, Queensland, Victoria and WA have all reported measles cases in returnees from overseas destinations with onward transmission in Australia also occurring.
- **Outbreaks of measles have been reported in Asia (including Indonesia and India), Africa, Europe (including the UK), the Middle East and the USA.**

#### Measles Prevention

- Measles is vaccine preventable and the best protection against it is a measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) containing vaccine. 2 doses of vaccine is required, at least 1 month apart.
- The MMR vaccines are **FREE**, safe and very effective. This is a reminder to check that people are **up to date with their vaccines and protected against measles.**
  - Children receive their **1<sup>st</sup> dose of MMR vaccine at 12 months and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose at 18 months.**
  - **Offer FREE measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine to people born during or after 1966** who do not have documentation of having received 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine. Vaccinate all individuals who are unsure of their vaccination history. There is no need to check measles serology prior to vaccination.
  - **Anyone planning overseas travel should make sure they have received appropriate travel vaccinations, including MMR vaccine.**
  - **Children travelling overseas to high risk areas before 12 months** can have a MMR vaccine from 6 months of age followed by 2 age appropriate MMR vaccines.

For more information see the NT Health Measles Fact Sheet [Measles \(nt.gov.au\)](https://www.nt.gov.au/health/cdc/fact-sheets/measles)

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