

Measles Characteristics

Classic symptoms

- ☐ **Fever (up to 105°F) + generalized maculopapular rash + one of the "3 C's"**
 - » 3 C's: cough, coryza (runny nose), conjunctivitis

☐ **Clues to measles**

- » Prodrome of fever and at least 1 of 3 C's often starts 2-4 days before rash
- » Rash starts on head or face and spreads downwards
- » Fever usually starts days before rash, often peaking around the time when the rash starts

Measles is rare in vaccinated people, especially with 2 doses of MMR

- » Fever usually starts days before rash, often peaking around the time when the rash starts

Febrile Rashes - Other Causes

☐ **Parvovirus B-19 ("Fifth Disease") ►**

- » Classic "slapped cheek" rash
- » More common in school-aged children than infants

☐ **Human Herpesvirus 6 ("Sixth Disease" or "Roseola")**

- » Common cause of febrile rash in infants
- » Rash commonly starts on trunk (measles rash starts on face/hairline)
- » Fever often resolves before start of rash (measles fever peaks around time of rash onset)

☐ **Enteroviruses ►**

- » Common cause of Hand/Foot/Mouth disease
- » Rash can be urticarial, which is not typical for measles

☐ **Neisseria Meningitis ►**

- » Patients can appear quite ill and decompensate quickly
- » Move fast. Plan to start antibiotics ASAP.
- » Respiratory isolation. Call infection control.

Testing Recommendations

Immediately contact PCHD Epi on Call to report a suspect measles case and arrange transport of specimens to AZ state lab.

- ☐ **Collect a nasopharyngeal (NP) or oropharyngeal/throat (OP) swab for measles (rubeola) PCR**
- ☐ **Obtain serum for measles (rubeola) IgM and IgG**
- ☐ **Urine sample for measles PCR**



"Slapped Cheek" rash of Parvo



Hand/Foot/Mouth



Neisseria Meningitis