

Measles is a serious disease that is easily spread through the air.

Contacts are people who shared the same air as someone who was infectious with measles. Contacts who are not immune may go on to develop the infection unless they get preventive treatment

Measles: information for contacts

Macquarie University

A person who was at Macquarie University on 3/4/2019 and 4/4/2019 has been diagnosed with measles.

If you were:

- at the food court on
 - o 3/4/2019 between 2:00 and 3:30pm and/or between 5:00 and 6:30pm, or
 - o 4/4/2019 between 1:00pm and 2:30pm, or
- at the Library café on 3/4/2019 between 2:00 and 3:30pm

you may have been exposed to measles and you should watch out for symptoms of measles until 23/4/2019. Also, as a precaution it is a good idea not to have contact with anyone who may be at risk of measles until after 23/4/2019.

The first symptoms of measles are fever, runny nose, sore runny eyes and cough. These are followed a few days later by a rash that usually starts on the face.

What is a measles contact?

“Contacts” are people who shared the same air as someone while they were infectious with measles (for example, being in the same room as someone with measles). If the infection is transferred and takes hold in contacts, these people go on to develop measles symptoms in 7 to 18 days after sharing the same air.

Many contacts will be immune to measles because of past measles infection or immunisation and will not get the disease. Other contacts who are susceptible may catch the virus and may then go on to spread the virus to others.

Who is at risk of measles infection?

People are at risk of measles if they have been a contact of someone with measles and if they are susceptible to measles. People who are regarded as susceptible to measles include:

- People born during or since 1966 who have not had two doses of MMR vaccine¹
- Babies under the age of 12 months who have not received their first dose of MMR vaccine
- Children over 18 months who have not received their second dose of MMR (or MMRV) vaccine
- Any people who have a weakened immune system (for example, people who are receiving chemotherapy for cancer or people who take high-dose steroid medications) even if they have been fully immunised or have had past measles infection.

If you develop symptoms of measles

- Do not attend public places (such as work, school, early childhood education and care services or shopping centres) or use public transport.
- See a doctor, preferably your general practitioner, as soon as possible so a diagnosis can be confirmed. Take this fact sheet along.
- Call the surgery ahead to alert them of your symptoms and to allow them to make

¹ People born before 1966 are likely to have had measles infection and are usually immune.

arrangements to assess you safely and without infecting other people. Ask to be given a mask and to be isolated so you don't spread the infection.

- Call your public health unit on 1300 066 055.

For further information about measles see the NSW Health factsheet on https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/measles_factsheet.aspx