

Summary

Alaska public health officials are investigating a confirmed case of measles infection on the Kenai Peninsula, AK. An unvaccinated teenager with travel to Arizona developed signs and symptoms of measles more than 10 days after arriving back in Alaska in early July. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing at the Alaska State Virology Laboratory for measles RNA virus was positive. Nonimmune persons who were in close proximity to the infected person may be at risk of developing measles. This person might have been infectious while in several public locations in Soldotna during July 8–14. Specific locations and dates/times are listed below:

Exposure locations in Soldotna.

Before the person was diagnosed with measles, they were in the following public locations. These times include the period when the person was at the location and two hours after. Measles virus can remain in the air for up to two hours after someone infectious with measles leaves the area. Anyone who was at the following locations during the times listed could have been exposed to measles:

| Date | Time | Location |
|-----------|--------------------|---|
| 7/14/2019 | 5:00 pm – 11:00 pm | Central Peninsula Hospital, Emergency Department, 250 Hospital Place, Soldotna, AK 99669 |
| 7/14/2019 | 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Urgent Care of Soldotna, 44604 Sterling Hwy Ste D, Soldotna, AK 99669 |
| 7/12/2019 | 10:30 am – 6:00 pm | Froso's Family Dining, 35433 Kenai Spur Hwy, Soldotna, AK 99669 |
| 7/11/2019 | 10:30 am – 5:00 pm | Froso's Family Dining, 35433 Kenai Spur Hwy, Soldotna, AK 99669 |
| 7/9/2019 | 3:30 pm – 10:30 pm | Froso's Family Dining, 35433 Kenai Spur Hwy, Soldotna, AK 99669 |
| 7/8/2019 | 3:30 pm – 12:00 am | Froso's Family Dining, 35433 Kenai Spur Hwy, Soldotna, AK 99669 |

What to do if you were in a location of potential measles exposure

Most people in our area have immunity to the measles through vaccination, so the risk to the general public is low. However, anyone who was in a location of potential exposure to measles around the times listed should:

- Find out if you have been vaccinated for measles or have evidence of immunity to measles previously.
- Call a healthcare provider promptly if you develop an illness with fever or illness with an unexplained rash. To avoid possibly spreading measles to other patients, do not go to a clinic or hospital without calling first to tell them you want to be evaluated for measles.

Measles symptoms could appear starting from seven days after the first exposure to twenty-one days after the last exposure. Rash is most likely to appear ten to twelve days after an exposure. **For more information about measles and measles vaccination visit:** <u>http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/measles/default.aspx</u>