



NEWS RELEASE

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MEASLES OUTBREAK UPDATE**COUNTY CONFIRMS 12th MEASLES CASE
*70 Children on Home Quarantine***

The County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) has confirmed another charter school student has measles, bringing the total number of confirmed cases to 12. Two suspect measles cases are pending confirmation.

The 6-year-old student is a schoolmate of the original measles case; a sibling of the 8-year-old child who attended Cirque du Soleil and visited the Whole Foods and Trader Joe's stores in Hillcrest, as reported by the County last week; and was one of the previous suspected cases.

"This is a child that has been on home quarantine since the outbreak began, so there is no risk to the general public, as the child has been at home during the infectious period," said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County Public Health Officer. "This new case serves as a reminder of how important it is for parents to vaccinate their children against measles and other vaccine preventable diseases."

Since the outbreak began in early February, 12 children are now confirmed to have measles; their ages range from 10 months to 9 years of age. Additionally, there are about 70 children on home quarantine and whose health is continuously being monitored by County Public Health staff.

The following is a list of confirmed and suspected cases:

Cooperative Charter School:

8 Confirmed (ages: 7, 9, 7, 8, 6, 8 and 6; the 3-year-old sibling of the original case also has the measles, but does not attend the school.)

No pending cases

Children's Clinic La Jolla:

4 Confirmed (ages: 11 months, 10 months, 11 months, 2 1/2 years)

No pending cases

Unknown Location:

2 Pending (ages: 18 months and 10 years)

The best way to prevent measles is by getting the MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine. Children should receive the first dose at 12 months of age and a second dose between ages 4-6.

Measles causes a high fever, cough, runny nose and watery eyes, followed by a rash; symptoms usually last one to two weeks. The disease is contagious from four days before the rash appears to four days afterwards. For more information about measles and the MMR vaccine, call the HHSA Immunization Branch at (619) 692-8661 or visit www.sdiz.org. ###