

HEALTH ALERT NETWORK | HEALTH ADVISORY | February 12, 2026

Updated MMR Vaccination Recommendations for Pembina County Following Measles Case

The North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is reporting a measles case in Pembina County. The individual was unvaccinated and reported no out-of-state travel during their incubation period. This case is not linked to the case in Williams County reported earlier this month.

Healthcare providers should maintain a high awareness for measles among febrile patients with rash, especially in those without two documented doses of measles, mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine. If healthcare providers suspect measles, the case should be isolated following airborne precautions and reported to the ND HHS immediately at 1-800-472-2180 or 701-328-2378. **Do not wait for laboratory results to report suspected cases of measles.** Additional information regarding measles testing can be found on the ND HHS [measles website](#).

Because this new case is not linked to a previous case or travel, there is concern about potential community transmission. ND HHS recommends that all residents and travelers to Pembina County ensure they are vaccinated against measles.

The following measles vaccine recommendations should be utilized for residents and travelers to Pembina County.

Infants Less than 6 months old:

Infants less than 6 months old are not recommended to receive MMR vaccine.

Infants 6 – 11 months:

Infants ages 6 through 11 months who reside in Pembina County should consider an early dose of MMR vaccine. Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Varicella (MMRV) vaccine should not be utilized in infants under 12 months of age. Children who receive a dose of MMR prior to 12 months should still receive two age-appropriate doses of MMR vaccine at least 28 days apart after their first birthday.

Children 12 months – 17 years:

Any child 12 months – 17 years old who has not previously received any dose of MMR vaccine should be vaccinated immediately, regardless of residence. For children residing in or visiting Pembina County, a second dose of MMR vaccine should be administered at least 28 days after receipt of the first dose of MMR vaccine.

Children residing in or visiting Pembina County who received their first age-appropriate dose of MMR vaccine should not wait to receive their second dose of MMR vaccine until 4-6 years old. The minimum interval of 28 days should be utilized due to the potential risk of measles in Pembina County.

No additional or booster doses of MMR are recommended for children aged 12 months – 17 years who have received two doses of MMR after 12 months old.

Adults 18 years and older:

All **adults born before 1957** were likely exposed to measles as a child and are considered immune to measles. Unless these individuals work in health care, there are no recommendations for these individuals to receive MMR vaccine.

Adults born between 1957 and 1968 who have no documented doses of MMR vaccine or who received doses of inactivated MMR vaccine and reside in or are visiting Pembina County should receive the first dose of MMR vaccine immediately followed by a second dose at least 28 days later. Adults born in this age group who have one dose of live-attenuated MMR vaccine and who reside in or are visiting Pembina County should receive a second dose of MMR vaccine. There are no booster or additional doses recommended after an individual has received two doses of MMR vaccine.

Adults born after 1968 who reside in or are visiting Pembina County and are unvaccinated should receive a dose of MMR vaccine immediately, followed by a second dose at least 28 days later. Any adult born after 1968 residing in or visiting Pembina County who has one documented dose of MMR vaccine should receive a second dose of MMR vaccine. There are no booster or additional doses recommended after an individual has received two doses of MMR vaccine. Adults born after 1968 who DO NOT reside in or travel to Pembina County only need one dose of MMR vaccine to be considered up-to-date.

Unknown Vaccination Status:

Anyone who does not know their vaccination status or is unable to find their record may receive a dose of MMR.

Access to Immunization Records:

Immunization records for North Dakota residents can be accessed at hhs.nd.gov/IRR or by contacting a healthcare provider.

Measles antibody testing:

CDC does not recommend measles antibody testing after MMR vaccination to verify the patient's immune response to vaccination. Appropriately documented doses of MMR vaccine should be considered as proof for evidence of immunity.

For more information about measles in North Dakota, please visit the North Dakota Immunization Unit website at <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/immunizations/measles>.