

Measles Update 2025

NORTH
Dakota | Health & Human Services
Be Legendary.

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Measles 2025, United States

U.S. Measles Cases in 2025

- As of May 8, 2025, 1,001 cases nationwide
- 96% unvaccinated or unknown vaccination status
- 68% in people 19 years and younger
- 13% of cases hospitalized
- 3 confirmed deaths

Measles Cases and Outbreaks | Measles (Rubella) | CDC

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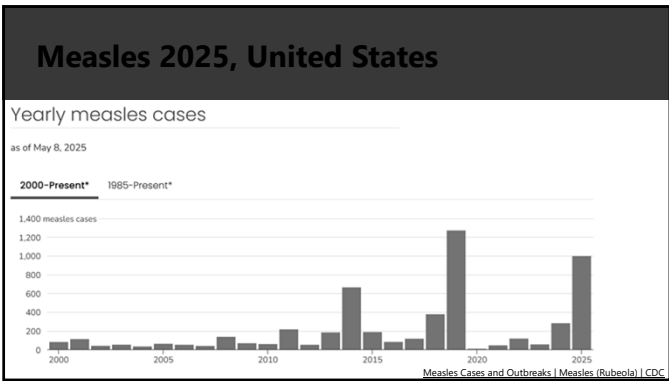
Measles 2025, United States

Map of measles cases as of May 8, 2025

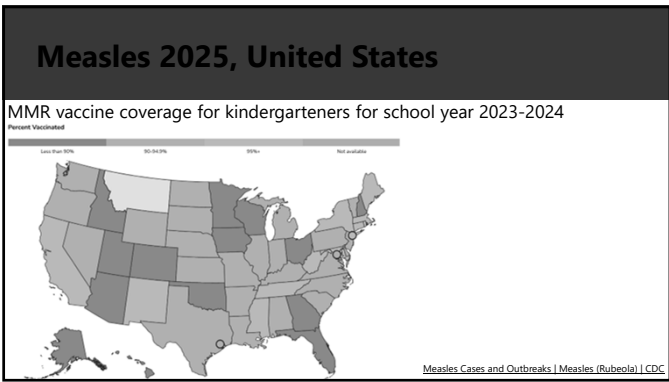


Measles Cases and Outbreaks | Measles (Rubella) | CDC

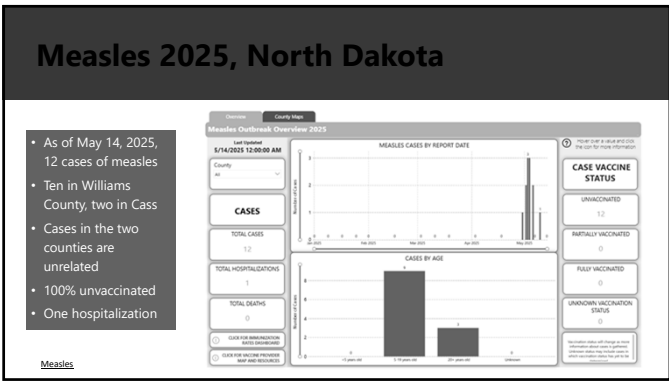
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Measles 2025, North Dakota

- Individuals diagnosed with measles were in Williston schools while infectious.
 - In accordance with North Dakota Century Code 23-07-17, unvaccinated students should be excluded from school for 21 days following exposure.
 - Staff without documentation of MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccination or who were not born before 1957 should also be excluded.
 - All unvaccinated staff and children in these schools should remain at home (quarantine) and monitor for symptoms.
- Schools affected and dates of exclusion are as follows:
 - Missouri Ridge Elementary: May 7 - May 23
 - Williston Middle School: May 7 - May 21
 - Williston High School: May 7 - May 21

Measles

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Measles 2025, North Dakota

- An individual diagnosed with measles presented at two Fargo clinics while infectious.
 - Essentia Health – The Lights West Fargo Clinic (3150 Sheyenne St., Ste. 240, West Fargo, ND) on May 7 between 2:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. The east entrance to the clinic is shared with the Bar Down Sports Bar and Restaurant.
 - Essentia Health Walk-in Care – 52nd Avenue (4110 51st Ave. S, Fargo, ND) on May 9 between 5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- North Dakota Health and Human Services (HHS), in coordination with Essentia Health, worked to identify individuals who may have been exposed, contact them, and provide guidance on how to proceed.

Measles

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Measles 2025, North Dakota

- Members of the public who were present at these locations during these times may have been exposed.
- These individuals are encouraged to monitor for symptoms and contact a healthcare provider if symptoms develop.

Exposure Location	Address	Date and Time (if known), includes time hours after case left location	Date expires (21 days after last exposure)
Walmart	4001 2nd Ave W, Williston, ND 58801	April 28, 2025 2:00pm to 5:00pm	May 20, 2025
Williston High School	4200 32nd St W, Williston, ND 58801	April 28, 2025 to April 30, 2025	May 21, 2025
Williston Middle School	501 14th St W, Williston, ND 58801-4062	April 28, 2025 to April 30, 2025	May 21, 2025
Missouri Ridge Elementary School	5640 140th Ave NW, Williston, ND 58801	April 28, 2025 to May 2, 2025	May 23, 2025
Essentia Health – The Lights West Fargo Clinic	3150 Sheyenne St., Ste. 240, West Fargo, ND	May 7, 2025 2:30pm to 6:00pm	May 28, 2025
Essentia Health Walk-in Care 52nd Avenue	4110 51st Ave. S, Fargo, ND	May 9, 2025 5:30pm to 8:00pm	May 30, 2025
Band Day Parade Williston	Harmon Park 1 Main St and 11th St W, Williston, ND 58801	May 10, 2025 11:00am to 4:00pm	May 31, 2025
Tractor Supply Williston	120 26th St E, Williston, ND 58801	May 12, 2025 8:00am to 5:30pm	June 2, 2025

Measles

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Measles 2025, North Dakota

- Because some of the newer cases in Williams County are not linked to earlier known exposures, there is concern about potential transmission within that community.
 - As a precaution, HHS recommends that all residents of and travelers to Williams County ensure they are vaccinated against measles.
 - This includes consideration of early MMR vaccination for infants aged 6 through 11 months.
 - Note: Infants under six months are not eligible for the MMR vaccine.
 - Early MMR vaccination is recommended for older children visiting or residing in Williams County as well. Children ages 12 months and older should receive their first dose of MMR if they have not already, followed by a second dose at least 28 days later. Children who have already received two post-12-month doses of MMR are considered fully vaccinated.
- Both cases in Cass County are linked to international travel, so there is not concern about potential transmission with that community.
 - HHS is not recommending early (starting at six months) measles vaccination for infants residing in or traveling to Cass County.

Measles

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Measles 2025, North Dakota

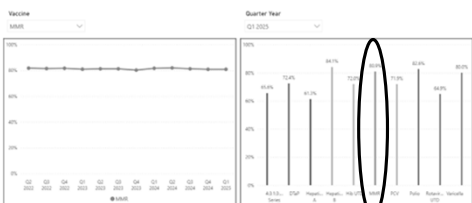
ND HHS measles outbreak vaccination recommendations for children who live in or visit counties with ongoing measles transmission ¹		
Age	Number of previous vaccine doses	MMR vaccine recommendations
0-6 months	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Vaccination is not recommended
6-11 months	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Should receive an early dose of MMR vaccine immediatelyShould receive two additional doses of MMR vaccine on the regular schedule<ul style="list-style-type: none">First dose at 12-15 monthsSecond dose at 4-6 years
1-17 years	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Receive each dose at least 28 days apart
	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Should receive second dose at least 28 days later
	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Should receive a second dose of MMR vaccine at least 28 days after first doseFully vaccinated; no additional doses needed

1. As of 8/6/2025 counties with ongoing measles transmission includes Williams County
Last updated: 8/6/2025

Measles

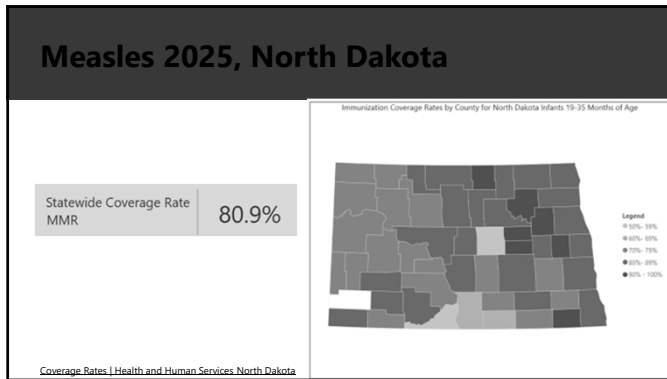
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Measles 2025, North Dakota

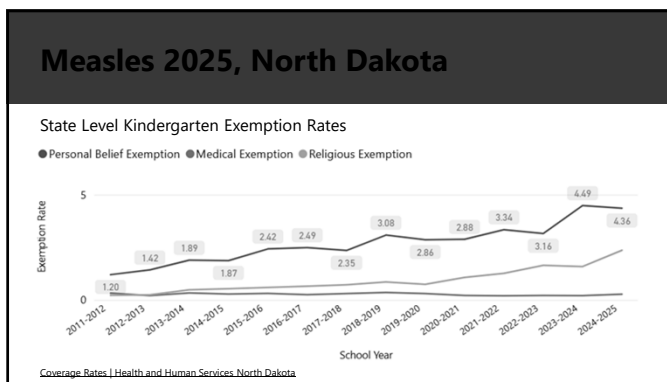


A community needs an immunity rate (immunized or considered immune to measles) of greater than 95% to achieve community immunity.

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Measles 2025, North Dakota

And remember:

Report Suspected Measles Cases IMMEDIATELY!

Call the HHS Immunization Unit at 701-328-2378.

- Measles is a highly contagious, airborne disease.
- A person who enters an airspace within two hours of someone with measles being in that airspace is considered exposed to measles.
- Anywhere with a shared ventilation system is considered the same airspace.
- Of those who catch measles, 1-2 persons per 1,000 will die – even with access to healthcare.

[Measles](#)

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How long do unvaccinated people exposed to measles need to quarantine?

- A) From time of exposure through 5 days after exposure
- B) From 7 days after exposure through 10 days after exposure
- C) From 5 days after exposure through 21 days after exposure
- D) From time of exposure through 21 days after exposure

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- D) From time of exposure through 21 days after exposure

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Measles Quarantine Duration

- Though measles is extremely contagious, not every exposed person will develop measles and, because of the incubation period for measles, people are not contagious immediately after exposure.
- Delaying the start of quarantine until 5 days after exposure allows time before a person develops measles and is contagious to get a dose of MMR vaccine. If they do this within 72 hours of exposure, they will not need to quarantine.

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Which of these children should be tested for measles?

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No Regrets

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Which of these children should be tested for measles?

- A) A 6-year-old who has received zero doses of MMR and has an itchy rash on her arm.
- B) A 5-month-old with a full body rash who recently visited West Texas with her family.
- C) A completely unvaccinated 14-year-old who was at Walmart in Williston during the exposure window.
- D) A 9-year-old who has received one dose of MMR and attends Missouri Ridge Elementary in Williston.

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Testing for Measles

- The measles rash is a full body, non-itchy rash. Someone with one dose of MMR should monitor for symptoms after an exposure but does not need to be tested.
- A completely unvaccinated 14-year-old who was at Walmart in Williston during the exposure window may also need to be tested, but we do not have enough information. He should be quarantining and if he has symptoms, testing would be appropriate.

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If a mom in Williston calls wanting her whole family (weren't at Walmart during the exposure window, no children in the impacted schools, not symptomatic, and have all gotten two doses of MMR) tested for measles, what should she be told?

STATE OF
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What Should She be Told?

- A) Purchase home test kits from Walmart and follow the instructions.
- B) Come on in, we'll get you taken care of!
- C) There will be testing events open to the public scheduled soon.
- D) Because you have all been vaccinated with two doses of MMR, you are at extremely low risk of measles and are well protected. Also, you have had no known exposures to measles and are showing no symptoms of measles. There is no need for your family to be tested at this time.

27

What Should She be Told?

- A) Purchase home test kits from Walmart and follow the instructions.
- B) Come on in, we'll get you taken care of!
- C) There will be testing events open to the public scheduled soon.
- D) Because you have all been vaccinated with two doses of MMR, you are at extremely low risk of measles and are well protected. Also, you have had no known exposures to measles and are showing no symptoms of measles. There is no need for your family to be tested at this time.

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When will the 2025 North Dakota measles outbreak officially be over?

North Dakota
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When will the 2025 North Dakota measles outbreak officially be over?

- A) 23 days after the last confirmed case is reported.
- B) One incubation period (21 days) after the last confirmed case is reported or ten days after rash onset in the last case.
- C) 21 days after rash onset in the last case..
- D) Two incubation periods (42 days) after the last confirmed case is reported or 23 days after rash onset in the last case.

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- C) 21 days after rash onset in the last case..
- D) Two incubation periods (42 days) after the last confirmed case is reported or 23 days after rash onset in the last case.

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Who should get Vitamin A for measles?

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Who should get Vitamin A for measles?

- A) Vitamin A should only be used under a medical provider's guidance for people who are severely ill and hospitalized with measles.
- B) All children should take a Vitamin A supplement to prevent measles.
- C) Vitamin A is an acceptable alternative to vaccinating to prevent measles.
- D) No one should get Vitamin A for measles.

33

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- D) No one should get Vitamin A for measles.

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Does measles vaccine contain fetal stem cells?

Division of
Dakota
Department of
Health & Human Services

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Does measles vaccine contain fetal stem cells?

- A) Yes, stem cells from aborted fetuses are used in the production of every batch of MMR and MMRV.
- B) MMR contains fetal stem cells but MMRV does not.
- C) No, vaccine viruses are grown in fetal cells, but the vaccines do not contain fetal cells.

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MMR Vaccine

According to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia: "Even though fetal cells are used to grow vaccine viruses, vaccines do not contain these cells or pieces of DNA that are recognizable as human DNA. People can be reassured by the following:

- When viruses grow in cells, the cells are killed because in most cases the new viruses burst the cells to be released.
- Once the vaccine virus is grown, it is purified, so that cellular debris and growth reagents are removed.
- During this process of purification, any remaining cellular DNA is also broken down."

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MMR Vaccine

- "Vaccines also do not contain fetal cells. Once the vaccine viruses are grown in the cells, the next step in the manufacturing process is to purify the vaccine viruses away from the cells and substances used to help cells grow. If you have ever picked blueberries, you can think of this part of the process as similar. While you are picking, you might get some of the blueberry plant — stems, leaves and even branches — in your berry bucket, but to use the berries, you remove all of those things, so your pie contains only the blueberries (and any other ingredients you choose to add).

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MMR Vaccine

This purification part of the process is important for two reasons. The first, and perhaps most obvious, is the manufacturing reason. From a manufacturer's perspective, an efficient process that results in the purest possible product makes the final product easier to characterize. However, as consumers, the second, and more important, reason matters more. A pure product will not introduce unnecessary components that could trigger immune responses or affect us in other ways."

- "Religious leaders from the major religions, including Catholicism, have evaluated the use of these cells in making vaccines and determined that it is not sinful to accept vaccines made in this manner."

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Which of these children should not get a dose of MMR at this time?

South Dakota
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Department

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Which of these children should not get a dose of MMR at this time?

- A) A 7-year-old who has received two doses of MMR.
- B) A 10-month-old who lives in Williston.
- C) A 12-year-old with zero doses of MMR.
- D) A 3-year-old who has received one dose of MMR and will be going to an event in Williston.

42

Which of these children should not get a dose of MMR at this time?

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- B) A 10-month-old who lives in Williston.
- C) A 12-year-old with zero doses of MMR.
- D) A 3-year-old who has received one dose of MMR and will be going to an event in Williston.

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MMR Vaccine

- A child who has received two doses of MMR is fully immunized and needs no additional doses.
- A child who is over 12 months of age who has received zero doses is behind schedule on MMR vaccine recommendations and should get a dose of MMR.

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MMR Vaccine

- For a 10-month-old who lives in the outbreak area and a 3-year-old who has received one dose of MMR and will be going traveling to the outbreak area, per the recommendations these children should get an early dose of MMR.

NORTH Dakota Health & Human Services by legislation		
ND HHS measles outbreak vaccination recommendations for children who live in or visit counties with ongoing measles transmission ¹		
Age	Number of previous vaccine doses	MMR vaccine recommendations
9-11 months	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaccination is not recommended
9-11 months	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should receive an early dose of MMR vaccine immediately Should receive two additional doses of MMR vaccine on the regular schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First dose at 12-15 months Second dose at 4-6 years Receive each dose at least 28 days apart
1-17 years	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should receive first dose immediately Should receive second dose at least 28 days later
	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should receive a second dose of MMR vaccine at least 28 days after first dose
	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully vaccinated; no additional doses needed

¹As of 6/6/2018 counties with ongoing measles transmission includes Williston County
Last updated: 6/15/2018

Measles

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Can the new sterile diluent prefilled syringes be used to reconstitute other vaccines?

North Dakota
Dakota Health & Human Services
No Regrets

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Can the new sterile diluent prefilled syringes be used to reconstitute other vaccines?

- A) Yes, sterile diluent prefilled syringes can be used to reconstitute any vaccine reconstituted with sterile diluent.
- B) No, the sterile diluent prefilled syringes should only be used to reconstitute Merck MMR and Varicella containing vaccines.
- C) Yes, but the sterile diluent prefilled syringes should be prioritized for Merck products first.

47

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- B) No, the sterile diluent prefilled syringes should only be used to reconstitute Merck MMR and Varicella containing vaccines.
- C) Yes, but the sterile diluent prefilled syringes should be prioritized for Merck products first.

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Vaccine Diluent

- Only the diluent supplied with the vaccine should be used to reconstitute the vaccine.
- <https://www.immunize.org/wp-content/uploads/catg.d/p3040r.pdf>

Vaccines with Diluents: How to Use Them

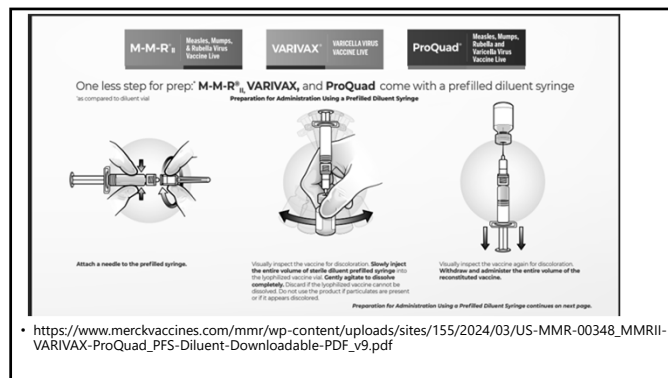
Be sure to reconstitute (mix) the following vaccines correctly before administering them. Reconstitution means that the lyophilized (freeze-dried) vaccine powder in one vial must be mixed with the diluent (liquid) in another.

- Only use the diluent provided by the manufacturer for that vaccine as indicated on the chart.
- ALWAYS check the expiration date on the diluent and vaccine. NEVER use expired diluent or vaccine.
- Never freeze diluents.

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- Never freeze diluents.

[illegible]

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With the current outbreak can providers place an additional order for MMR vaccine if needed?

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Additional MMR Orders

- A) No, providers should attempt to plan ahead for any anticipated need of MMR vaccine.
- B) Yes, providers are able to place an additional order for MMR vaccine even if they already placed their monthly vaccine order.
- C) Yes, providers are always able to place as many vaccine orders each month as they need to.

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Additional MMR Orders

- A) No, providers should attempt to plan ahead for any anticipated need of MMR vaccine.
- B) Yes, providers are able to place an additional order for MMR vaccine even if they already placed their monthly vaccine order.
- C) Yes, providers are always able to place as many vaccine orders each month as they need to.

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Vaccine Orders

- In general VFC/VFA enrolled providers are able to order vaccine once per calendar month.
- At this time providers are able to place additional orders each month for MMR vaccine if the provider is in need of additional vaccine.

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Do separate stocks of MMR vaccine need to be kept for VFC and VFA?

North Dakota
Health & Human Services
No Regrets

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Do separate stocks of MMR vaccine need to be kept for VFC and VFA?

- A) Yes, providers are always required to keep separate vaccine stocks for VFC and VFA eligible patients.
- B) No, providers are able to use the same stock for both VFC and VFA eligible patients.
- C) Yes, but vaccine can be borrowed from one stock or the other if needed.

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- B) No, providers are able to use the same stock for both VFC and VFA eligible patients.
- C) Yes, but vaccine can be borrowed from one stock or the other if needed.

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Separate Stocks of Public Vaccine

- Only publicly supplied influenza and COVID-19 vaccines are needed to be kept in separate inventories and that is because these doses are prebooked with different funding sources.
 - All other publicly supplied vaccines can be administered to VFC and VFA eligible individuals interchangeably (Tdap, PCV, HPV, etc).

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Are insurance companies and Medicaid covering doses of MMR for indicated infants 6-11 months old?

State of North Dakota
Dakota | Health & Human Services
ndhhs.gov

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Insurance coverage for infants 6-11 months old?

- A) No, this is considered off label and therefore would be an out-of-pocket expense.
 B) No, but publicly supplied vaccine can be used for all infants who need MMR vaccine.
 C) Yes, ND HHS has verified that ND Medicaid, BCBS of ND and Sanford Health Plan will cover this dose.

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 B) No, but publicly supplied vaccine can be used for all infants who need MMR vaccine.
 C) Yes, ND HHS has verified that ND Medicaid, BCBS of ND and Sanford Health Plan will cover this dose.

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Insurance Coverage for infants needing MMR

- The immunization unit has verified with those three insurers/carriers but there are many insurance companies in ND where coverage is unknown.
- We cannot guarantee insurance coverage for any individual, policy or company. Contact the insurer directly to verify coverage.
- Patients should still be screened for insurance coverage and public or private vaccine used based on eligibility.

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Post-Test

- Successfully complete the five-question post-test to receive your certificate for nursing credit using the link below:
https://ndhealth.co1.qualtrics.com/ife/form/SV_3Ux9Tj5xrv3Mg gK
- Credit for this session will be available until June 10, 2025.
- This presentation will be posted to our website at:
www.hhs.nd.gov/immunizations

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Staff Members

For general immunization questions: vaccine@nd.gov

For NDHS-specific questions: NDHS@nd.gov

Immunization Unit

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