Measles

is very contagious

The U.S. has maintained measles elimination status since 2000 (24 years).

Elimination means there is an absence of endemic measles virus transmission in a defined geographical area for at least 12 months.

Individuals are considered infectious **4 days prior** to rash onset **through 4 days after** rash onset. Being infectious prior to symptoms and prior to rash onset allows for measles to spread easily in the community to susceptible people.

Measles virus lives in the nose, throat, and lungs of an infected person. It spreads from person-to-person, through coughing, sneezing, talking, sharing food or drink, and touching contaminated surfaces then your eyes, nose or mouth.

Unlike other respiratory viruses, measles can form small infectious particles that float in the air for **up to 2 hours** after an infectious person has left the area.

As many as **1 out of every 20** children with measles gets **pneumonia**. This is the most common cause of death from measles in young children.

About 1 out of 1,000 children who get measles will develop **brain swelling**, which could lead to **convulsions** and can cause long term conditions such as permanent **deafness** or **intellectual disabilities**.

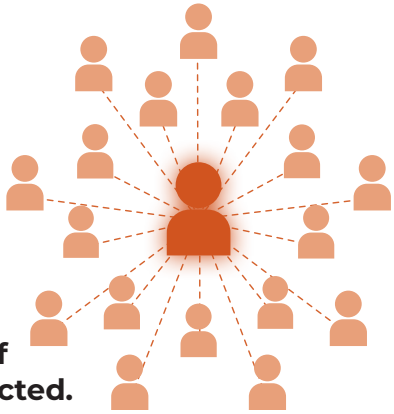
Nearly 1 to 3 out of 1,000 children who become infected with measles will **die from respiratory and neurologic complications**, even with the best medical care.

Measles may cause pregnant women who have not had the MMR vaccine or previous infection to **give birth prematurely** or have a **low-birth weight baby**.

It is so contagious that if one person has it,

9 to 18

people around them will also become infected if they are not protected.



Measles is significantly more contagious than with other respiratory viruses such as flu, RSV, or COVID (1 – 6 people).

There is no specific treatment for measles, just supportive care.

The risk of infection from measles, if exposed, based on immune status.

90%	7%	3%
No Immunity (no previous infection /vaccination)	1 MMR vaccine	2 MMR vaccines

The measles vaccine is very effective. It is considered to be one of the most effective vaccines currently in use today.

This vaccine has been around since 1963.

Two doses of measles vaccine are about 97% effective at preventing measles if exposed to the virus. One dose is about 93% effective.

One dose is

93%

Effective

OKLAHOMA State Department of Health