

**Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care****Ministère de la Santé
et des Soins de longue durée**

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Télécopieur: (416) 325-8412**MEMORANDUM****TO: All Medical Officers of Health and Associate Medical Officers of Health****RE: Measles Activity in Ontario and Worldwide**

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you of recent measles activity in Ontario and to provide you with a fact sheet for sharing with health care providers in your jurisdiction.

Recently, there has been increased measles activity reported worldwide with outbreaks in the Americas (USA, Peru and Guatemala), parts of Africa (Congo and Zambia), Asia (Bangladesh and India) and Europe (France, Spain, Switzerland, UK, and Germany). In Canada, an outbreak is ongoing in Quebec with 254 confirmed reported cases as of June 6, 2011. In Ontario, 11 cases of measles have been reported to date since the start of 2011. Ontario cases are due to importation of measles from exposures in the UK, India, New York City and France with some secondary spread.

During the summer months, there will be an anticipated increase of travel within Canada and internationally. As a result, it is important to remain vigilant for importations of measles from regions with high disease activity, as well as other vaccine preventable diseases.

Individuals should ensure that their immunizations are up to date prior to traveling. For protection against measles, it is recommended that they receive two doses of measles containing vaccine prior to traveling to endemic regions or where large outbreaks of measles are occurring. Information can be found on the PHAC website at: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/tmp-pmv/thn-csv/measles-rougeole-eng.php>.

Please share the attached *Measles Activity in Ontario and Worldwide: For Health Care Providers* fact sheet information with physicians and other health care providers in your health unit area.

Should you have any additional questions about this information, please contact Sharon Dolman, Nurse Consultant at 416-327-7417 or by e-mail at sharon.dolman@ontario.ca.

Yours truly,

Original Signed by Dr. Williams

David C. Williams, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health
Health Protection & Prevention

Attachment

c: Vaccine Preventable Diseases Managers and Communicable Diseases Managers