



Press Release

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Vaccine Advisory for Individuals Traveling Internationally

The Centers for Disease Control has issued an advisory recommending that those traveling internationally are current on MMR vaccination. So far this year, there has been an increase in measles cases in the US and abroad. Many countries, including travel destinations such as Austria, the Philippines, Romania, and the United Kingdom, are experiencing measles outbreaks.

CDC has been notified of 58 confirmed U.S. cases of measles between January and March 14, 2024. For context, there were 58 total cases reported for the entire year of 2023. Among the cases reported in 2024, 93% (54) were linked to international travel. The CDC now recommends measles prevention in all international travelers aged 6 months and older.

Measles (rubeola) is highly contagious; one person infected with measles can infect 9 out of 10 unvaccinated individuals with whom they come in close contact. Most cases reported in 2024 have been among children aged 12 months and older who had not received measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine. Anyone who is not protected against measles is at risk of getting infected when they travel internationally.

If you and your family are planning on international travel this year, it is recommended that you get MMR vaccines at least two weeks before you leave. The Baker County Health Department can help. The Health Department clinic offers all childhood vaccines and is open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm. Call (541) 523-8211 with any questions or to schedule an appointment.

After international travel, watch for signs and symptoms of measles for 3 weeks after returning to the United States. If you or your child gets sick with a rash and a high fever, call your healthcare provider. Tell them you traveled to another country and whether you or your child have received MMR vaccine.

Even if not traveling, ensure that children receive all recommended doses of MMR vaccine. Getting an MMR vaccine is much safer than getting measles, mumps, or rubella.

For More Information, read the CDC's [Increase in Global and Domestic Measles Cases and Outbreaks: Ensure Children in the United States and Those Traveling Internationally 6 Months and Older are Current on MMR Vaccination](#)