

To:

Primary and Secondary Care Clinicians

(GP surgeries/walk in and urgent care centres/ hospitals)

29th February 2024

Dear Colleague,

**Re: Suspected Measles notification**
The East of England Health Protection Team (HPT) have seen a steady increase in suspected measles notifications in recent weeks. As you may be aware, there has been a [steady increase in confirmed measles cases this year](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/measles-epidemiology-2023) across England.

Measles is highly infectious and can lead to serious health complications, particularly in very vulnerable individual e.g. immunosuppressed individuals, pregnant women and young infants. Therefore, it is important to notify all suspected/ confirmed cases to the HPT to facilitate a timely public health risk assessment of any identified contacts and/or settings as required.

Please refer to the [Measles National guidance](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65bb924dcc6fd600145dbe4d/20240123_national-measles-guidelines-February-2024.pdf) on more information on vulnerable contacts.

In order to support the HPT to assess and prioritise the follow up of suspected measles cases, we would kindly ask clinicians to include the following additional information at time of notification:

- Vaccination status
- Is exclusion advice given
- Vulnerable contacts in the household
- Setting attended and when i.e., workplace or school
- Symptoms including onset date of the rash (e.g. fever, cough, coryza, conjunctivitis)
- Any travel or mention of contact with anyone with similar symptoms/ suspected measles

**General reminder on how to report to the Health Protection Team:**

Clinicians can report notification of infectious diseases by phone or email. For urgent notification, we would recommend a phone call to us.

The East of England Health Protection contact number is 0300 303 8537 (in or out of hours).

Our email address is phe.eoehpt@nhs.net (please use your own NHS.net to email the NOID form back to us to ensure the secure transfer of patient sensitive information)

Clinicians can also refer to the below guide on the urgency of reporting infectious diseases:

[Notifications of infectious diseases (NOIDs) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/notifications-of-infectious-diseases-noids)

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,



Dr Victor Aiyedun

Vaccine Preventable Disease Lead
Consultant in Communicable Disease Control
Health Protection Team, East of England, UKHSA