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An anti-vaccination 'hotspot' near Portland declares an emergency over measles outbreak

因麻疹爆发，美国波特兰附近一反疫苗的高危地区宣布紧急情况

A quickly escalating measles outbreak around Portland, Oregon, has led health officials in nearby Clark County, Washington, to declare a public health emergency.

因一场迅速升级的麻疹感染席卷了美国俄勒冈州的波特兰地区，在该地区附近的华盛顿州拉克县内，健康官员宣布进入公共健康紧急状态。

At the beginning of last week, there were only a handful of confirmed cases. On Friday, the day the emergency was declared, there were 19. The latest update came Tuesday, when county officials said they had confirmed 23 cases and were investigating two more suspected cases. The vast majority of those who have fallen ill had not been immunized.

上周伊始，只有少数确诊病例。当周五紧急状态宣布时，已有 19 人确诊。而根据周二最新的数据，该县官员称他们确认已有 23 例病患，并仍在调查两个可疑案例。绝大多数病患未曾进行过免疫接种。

The outbreak makes concrete the fears of pediatric epidemiologists that a citadel of the movement against compulsory vaccination could be susceptible to the rapid spread of a potentially deadly disease.

此次疾病爆发，证实了儿科流行病学家的担忧。他们认为，反对强制免疫运动发生的阵地，可能成为易致死疾病传播的温床。

State data shows that 7.9 percent of children in Clark County were exempted in the 2017-18 school year from vaccines required for kindergarten entry, which includes the two-dose course for measles that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says is 97 percent effective. Nationally, about 2 percent of children went without required immunization for nonmedical reasons.

该州数据显示，克拉克县有 7.9% 的孩子在 2017-18 学年中没有注射幼儿园入学时要求注射的疫苗，这其中就包括两剂针对麻疹的药物。美国疾病预防控制中心表示这种药物有效率高达 97%。全国范围内，约 2% 的孩子因为非医学的原因不接种强制疫苗。

Because measles is among the most highly contagious of all infectious diseases, it is bound to spring up in areas with low vaccination rates, according to Peter J. Hotez, a professor of pediatrics and dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

彼得·J·霍特兹是一名儿科学教授，同时也是休斯敦贝勒医学院国家热带医学系的院长。他表示，因为麻疹是所有传染病中最可能通过接触传染的，所以一定会在疫苗接种率低的地方迅速爆发。

"This is something I've predicted for a while now," he said of the public health emergency in Clark County. "It's really awful and really tragic and totally preventable."

他谈到克拉克县的公共卫生紧急情况时表示：“这是我之前就已经预测到的事。这很可怕，非常令人悲痛，而且完全是可以预防的。”

----- 文章来源 / 华盛顿邮报

重点词汇

vaccination /ˌvæksɪˈneɪʃn/: n. 疫苗接种

- 派生词：vaccinate (v.); vaccine (n.)
- 搭配短语：sb. be vaccinated against sth.

hotspot/'hɔ:t spɑ:t/: n. 热岛；有重要活动，或者非常危险的地方

- 搭配短语：the world's hot spots

measles/'mi:zlz/: n. 麻疹

outbreak/'aʊtbreɪk/: n. 爆发，突然发生

- 例句：the outbreak of the Second World War

escalate/'eskəleɪt/: v. 迅速增长，不断恶化

例句：The fighting escalated into a full-scale war. 战斗升级为全面战争。

county/'kaʊnti/: n. （英国、爱尔兰的）郡；（美国的）县

a handful of: 少量的

immunize/'ɪmjunaɪz/: v. （尤指通过注射疫苗）使免疫

- 搭配短语：immunize sb. against sth.
- 例句：The vaccine is used to immunize children against measles.
- 词义辨析

vaccinate, immunize

vaccinate 只指“注射疫苗”；而 immunize 所指不仅包括注射，还涉及注射之后疫苗起效的免疫作用。

pediatric/'pi:di'ætrɪk/: adj. 小儿科的

- 词根词缀：ped- 表“儿童的，与儿童有关的”
- 派生词：pedophile (n.); pediatrics (n.)

epidemiologist/'epɪ,dɪ:mi'ɔ:lədʒɪst/: n. 流行病学家

- 派生词：epidemic (adj.); epidemiology (n.)

citadel/'sɪtədəl/: n. 堡垒, 要塞

compulsory/kəm'pʌlsəri/: adj. （因法律或规则而）必须做的，强制的，强迫的

susceptible/sə'septəbl/: adj. 易受影响（或伤害等）的

- 例句：He's highly susceptible to flattery.
- 例句：Some plants are more susceptible to frost damage.

exempt from: 免除，豁免

- 例句：The customers are exempt from all charges. (adj.)
- 搭配短语：be exempted from paying the tax (v.)

dose/doʊs/: n. (药的) 一剂, 一服

- 英文释义：an amount of a medicine or a drug that is taken once

course/kɔːrs/: n. (医疗、服药等的) 疗程

contagious/kən'teɪdʒəs/: adj. (疾病) 接触传染的; (情绪, 感觉) 有感染力的

- 搭配短语：a contagious laugh

infectious/ɪn'fekʃəs/: adj. (疾病) 传染的; 有感染力的

- 例句：Flu is highly infectious.
- 搭配短语：an infectious laugh
- 词义辨析

contagious, infectious

两者都可以表示“疾病的传染”和“有感染力”的意思。在表示“疾病传染”时，infectious 一般暗示疾病通过呼吸传染的，contagious 则指通过接触传染的。

be bound to: 很可能的, 极有可能的

- 例句：You've done so much work—you're bound to pass the exam.

spring up: 迅速出现; 突然兴起

- 英文释义：to appear or develop quickly or suddenly
- 搭配短语：spring up like mushrooms

dean/diːn/: n. (大学的) 学院院长, 系主任