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Rubella (German Measles)

Rubella is a respiratory disease caused by a virus. It is spread by sneezing and coughing. Common symptoms include rash and fever for two to three days. When a woman is infected with rubella during pregnancy, complications for the infant may include deafness, cataracts, heart defects, mental retardation, and liver and spleen damage.

Children should get their first dose of the MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine at 12 months old or later. The second dose of MMR is usually administered before the child begins kindergarten, but may be given one month or more after the first dose. Students (including college students), health care workers, and international travelers should receive two doses of MMR vaccine.

Facts

Rubella Information (CDC) What you need to know, MMR and autism theory, measles, mumps and rubella, vaccine information, and more.

Information for Health Professionals

- CDPH: Rubella Case and Outbreak "Quicksheet" Concise information on diagnosis, testing and treatment
- Rubella Lab Specimens for Typing of Rubella Virus (PDF, New Window) Specimen collection and shipping information.
- ...» Lab Tests for Rubella and CRS, CDC's VPD Surveillance Manual, Chapter 19 (PDF, New Window) Serologic testing, molecular typing and more.
- Acceptable Presumptive Evidence of Immunity to Measles, Rubella, and Mumps Descriptions of types of people such as students and health care workers who qualify as immune.

Data and Surveillance

- ->> Data and Surveillance Vaccine preventable disease reports.
- ->> Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS) March of Dimes What risks does rubella pose for the fetus?

->> Rubella (German Measles) Case Report Form

- Facts about the MMR vaccine.
- » ACIP Recommendations for the MMR Vaccine This statement summarizes the goals and current strategies for measles, rubella, and congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) elimination and for mumps reduction in the United States.

Resources

- ->> California Department of Public Health, Immunization Branch Homepage of the Branch.
- » Pink Book, Rubella (CDC, PDF, New Window) Disease and vaccine information
- Vaccine Preventable Diseases (CDC)
- Information about diseases and the vaccines that prevent them.
- Rubella Control in Prisons, Jails, and Hospitals (PDF, New Window) Serologic testing, control measures, outbreak investigations and more.

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