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# Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Measles Exposure Reminds of Vaccination Importance**

**Sutter Creek, CA** – Amador County Public Health is conducting an investigation of an unvaccinated visitor who tested positive for measles. This individual is not a resident of Amador County. There are no cases currently in Amador County.

“This is a good reminder of the importance of vaccination,” states Dr. Rita Kerr, Amador County Health Officer. “Measles is a very contagious and potentially severe vaccine-preventable disease that spreads through the air and by contact with an infected person.”

Symptoms usually begin with a fever, cough, runny nose and/or red, watery eyes. A red rash occurs a few days later on the face and upper neck, then spreads down the back, trunk, arms and legs. People are contagious from about 4 days before the rash appears through 4 days after it appears.

**Anyone suspecting they have measles should CALL their medical provider BEFORE seeking care to avoid exposing others.**

Two doses of measles vaccine (MMR) are 97 percent effective in preventing measles. If you are unsure of your vaccination status, check with your doctor to see if you need a booster. Vaccinations are safe, and the benefits far outweigh any risks. Side effects are usually mild, such as soreness where the shot was given. Measles is found in many parts of the world, including Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Vaccination before traveling is recommended.

To learn more about measles, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/> and the California Department of Public Health website at: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/measles.aspx> .

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