



WARREN COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

416 South East Street – Lebanon, Ohio 45036

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Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

03/15/2024

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Measles

A Measles exposure event has occurred at the Heritage Bank Arena at a Disney on Ice show. The affected show was on **March 8, 2024, at 7:00 pm.** Anyone who was in the Heritage Bank Arena anytime during the show or up to 2 hours after the show may have been exposed to measles. Measles can spread very rapidly among populations. The Warren County Health District wants to make sure our community is aware of the disease in the region along with steps that can be taken to protect your family from getting measles.

Measles is very contagious. Individuals infected with measles can spread it to others, even before they have symptoms. The measles virus can live for up to two hours in the air after an infected person leaves the room and therefore have the potential to infect others. Nine out of 10 unvaccinated people who are exposed to measles will become infected. Symptoms may not occur for up to 21 days after exposure to an individual who has measles. You are considered protected against measles if you were born before 1957, have already had a documented case of measles or if you have had two doses of measles (MMR) vaccine.

Symptoms of measles can include high fever, cough, runny nose, watery eyes, and a rash beginning 3-5 days after other symptoms occur. Measles can be serious, and about 1 in 5 children who get measles will be hospitalized with complications such as pneumonia, dehydration, or brain swelling.

Vaccination is the best way to protect against measles. The measles vaccine is highly protective; one dose of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine provides 93% protection against measles and two doses provide 97% protection. Individuals should talk to their doctor now, to make sure they are up-to-date with all vaccinations. The Centers for Disease Control and Protection recommends all children get two doses of MMR vaccine, starting with the first dose at 12 through 15 months of age, and the second dose at 4 through 6 years of age. MMR vaccine can also be given to adults, who are not vaccinated, or whose vaccination status is unknown.

If you are unvaccinated, or do not know if you are vaccinated, talk to your healthcare provider about vaccination. The MMR vaccine is safe and effective with hundreds of millions of doses given. Contact your local pharmacy, health department or healthcare provider to get vaccinated. **The Warren County Health District is offering walk in hours for MMR vaccinations at its clinic located at 416 S. East St., Lebanon. Walk in hours are Monday – Friday from 7:30 am – 11:30 am and 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm. For more information, call 513-695-1468.**

*** If you are experiencing symptoms, avoid contact with others and seek care from your healthcare provider. Call the provider **before** you arrive to notify them you have a measles concern, so that further spread can be prevented. ***

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