

May 2, 2019

Residents encouraged to be up to date on MMR vaccination

MOBILE, Alabama — The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) received notification of a case of presumptive positive measles this morning of an infant in St. Clair County. Currently, this is the only presumptive measles case under investigation in Alabama.

The infant was considered contagious from April 23 through May 1. ADPH is working to confirm the diagnosis and to contact those exposed. The child is not in daycare and has had no out-of-state travel. So far in 2019, ADPH has conducted 174 investigations, including 32 open investigations, but this is the first presumptive positive case.

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) recommends that people get the MMR vaccine to protect against measles, mumps and rubella. Children should get two doses of MMR vaccine, starting with the first dose at 12 to 15 months of age, and the second dose at 4 through 6 years of age. Teens and adults should also be up to date on their MMR vaccination. More information can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/mmr/public/index.html>.

The Mobile County Health Department's (MCHD) vaccine efforts primarily focus on children under 19 years of age. Free MMR vaccine is only available for children participating in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program and for persons who may qualify based upon the health department fee schedules.

MCHD has a very limited supply of MMR vaccine for adults and urges those with insurance and other coverage such as Medicaid to be vaccinated at their pharmacy or provider. The CDC says about 95 percent or more of unvaccinated people exposed to a single case of measles will contract the disease.

MCHD's Urgent Care site at 251 North Bayou Street in Downtown Mobile currently has the MMR vaccine available. You may call 251-445-8640 to confirm doses are still on hand and to get the current price.