



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health and Family Services

Jim Doyle, Governor
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Health Officials Encouraging People to Get Immunized

Immunization Clinic Being Held Today from 4-6 p.m.

Waukesha, WIS. – A Waukesha County resident has a confirmed case of rubella. Local health officials are working with the Milwaukee/Waukesha Public Health Consortium and the Department of Health and Family Services to limit the transmission of disease. Health officials are recommending that children and adults get immunized if they have not been vaccinated previously.

A local immunization clinic is being held today from 4-6 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1052 Whiterock Avenue in Waukesha. Clinic visitors must enter through the Baxter Street entrance. If you are unsure about your measles or rubella disease or vaccine history, it is recommended that you be immunized.

The rubella vaccine is given in combination with measles and mumps (called MMR vaccine) and is recommended for all children at 12-15 months of age and at 4-6 years of age. The two doses of vaccine normally provide life long immunity.

Most people born before 1957 are probably immune to measles or rubella by having acquired the disease naturally. For most adults born in or after 1957, health officials are recommending one dose.

Rubella, also called German or 3-day measles, is a vaccine preventable viral infection that is spread through the air by coughing, sneezing or talking. Rubella symptoms usually occur 12-23 days after exposure to the virus. In children, it usually begins with a rash that appears on the face and neck and lasts 2-3 days. Older children and adults may experience a low grade fever, swollen glands at the back of the neck, and an upper respiratory infection before the rash begins. People can spread disease a week before and after the rash starts.

Rubella is most serious for pregnant females in their first trimester because the baby has up to a 90% chance of being stillborn or born with Congenital Rubella Syndrome, which can include deafness, blindness, mental retardation and heart defects. Infants with CRS can spread the virus for months after birth.

For more information, go to:

Measles (scientifically known as Rubeola) <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/factsheets/measles.htm>

Rubella <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/factsheets/Rubella.htm>

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