



Weill Cornell Medical College

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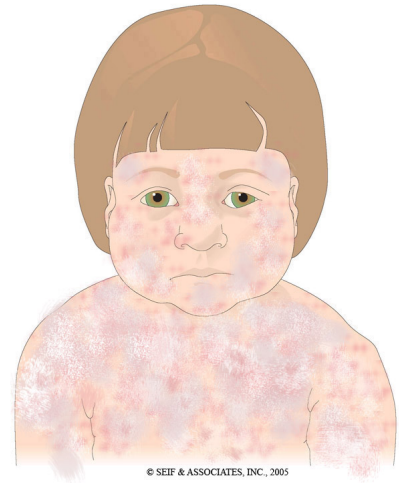
Patient Education:

Measles, Pediatric

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Measles, Pediatric

Measles is an illness caused by a virus. The illness usually includes a red rash that develops on the face and body. Other symptoms appear before the rash. These may include fever, coughing, sneezing, sore throat, red eyes, and white spots in the mouth. The virus can spread from person to person (*contagious*) very easily. Measles can be prevented by a vaccine, but there is no cure for measles once a person has it. It usually goes away on its own within 2 weeks.



HOME CARE

- Have your child rest.
- Have your child drink enough fluids to keep his or her pee (*urine*) clear or pale yellow.
- Keep the lights low if bright lights bother your child.
- Keep a device that adds moisture to the air (*humidifier*) in your child's room if possible to help relieve your child's cough.
- Only give medicine as told by your child's doctor. **Do not** give aspirin to children.
- Follow up with your child's doctor as told.
- Keep your child away from others until 4 days after the rash appears to prevent the spread of measles.

GET HELP RIGHT AWAY IF:

- Your child has ear pain or fluid draining from the ear.
- Your child has a headache.
- Your child is breathing very fast or strangely.
- Your child has chest pain.
- Your child has shortness of breath.
- Your child is confused.
- Your child is twitching or shaking (*seizure*).
- Your child feels sick to his or her stomach (*nauseous*) or throws up (*vomits*).
- Your child's measles symptoms do not go away in 2 weeks.
- Your child has a lasting fever or other symptoms.
- Your child has symptoms of another illness.

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Understand these instructions.
- Will watch your child's condition.
- Will get help right away if your child is not doing well or gets worse.

This information is not intended to replace advice given to you by your health care provider. Make sure you discuss any questions you have with your health care provider.

Document Released: 09/26/2009 Document Revised: 05/04/2015 Document Reviewed: 07/16/2013
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