# Measles

# **Vaccine**

# Safe Communities

The health of our communities should be the priority of everyone and not just that of local leadership. One part of what makes a healthy community's foundation is that people make responsible decisions like taking vaccines, when necessary, like during outbreaks.



The CDC reported that the United States in 2024 had 285 known cases of the measle of which 89% of the people infected were unvaccinated. Since it is incredibly contagious, more people should be considerate of how they get infected or can easily infect other people.

### **New Mexico & West Texas**

During the recent outbreak in West Texas and Southeast New Mexico. Even though, "Measles was considered eliminated in the U.S. in 2000, thanks to the highly effective MMR vaccine and high vaccination rates" (Public Health On Call, 2025). In early 2025, Southeastern New Mexico experienced an outbreak of the measles with some neighboring counties in West Texas. People who tested positive for the measles had to be quarantined for 21 days per the CDC recommendations in an effort to halt the spread.

## **Prevention**

Many health issues can be mitigated from an early age with vaccines and safe practices. Especially for the contagious viral disease called the Measles, a though the vaccine is offered to children, adults can also receive it as a two-stage shot especially if they got it before 1968. However, some adults prefer to opt-out as well as not allowing their children to receive it.

## From The Experts

"experts advise people to ensure they're vaccinated against the illness and note some may want to get booster shots" (Bohannon, 2025)

"Despite high vaccine effectiveness, wildtype measles can occur in previously vaccinated persons" (Clinical Infectious Diseases, Vol 80, Iss 3, 2025).

#### Conclusion

I believe that vaccines can save people's lives. I also believe that some symptoms of smaller infections can be solved holistically, however there is truly no replacement for modern medicine. Infants, children, adults and senior citizens are all subject to exposure which can result in death. That is why understanding the importance of vaccines should be known to all. Especially if you or someone you know have health issues. Many resources are available online and emergency health clinics have been setup around New Mexico.

#### Resources

https://publichealth.jhu.edu/2025/the-measles-outbreak-in-west-texas-and-beyond

https://www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html

https://www.nmhealth.org/about/erd/ideb/mog/

https://www.forbes.com/sites/mollybohannon/2025/03/25/should-you-get-a-measles-vaccine-booster-heres-

what-to-know/?ctpv=searchpage

https://academic.oup.com/cid/article-abstract/80/3/663/7756619?redirectedFrom=fulltext