

	FALMOUTH VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES <i>SAFETY BULLETIN</i>	
	SUBJECT: MEASLES	NUMBER: SB09-002
	APPROVED: Kevin Good, Fire Chief	INITIATED 04/22/2009
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The Virginia Department of Health is investigating a case of measles in Prince William County. There have been two cases in D.C. and four in Maryland.

Measles is a highly infectious viral disease.

Measles is characterized by:

- Cough
- Runny nose
- Conjunctivitis
- Maculopapular rash

Transmission is person to person via respiratory droplets. Airborne transmission has occurred up to **two hours** after an infected person has occupied the airspace. People with measles are contagious from four days before the rash appears until four days after the rash appears.

For patients with a febrile rash and suspected measles, the following procedures are recommended:

- * Place a mask on the patient.
- * PPE (Mask and gloves) for the Fire/EMS Crews.
- * Limit the number of caregivers and limit caregivers to those who have measles immunity.
- * Notify receiving hospital.
- * Create negative pressure in the Ambulance by opening the windows.

- * Use Infection Control procedures when cleaning the unit and equipment.

You can presume to be immune to measles if you:

- * Had two recorded doses of measles vaccine.
- * Have laboratory evidence of immunity.
- * Have Physician-diagnoses of measles.

Susceptible personnel who have been exposed to measles should be relieved from patient contact and excluded duties from the fifth to the 21st day after exposure.