

# MAINE PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT NETWORK SYSTEM

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*Maine Department of Health and Human Services  
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC)  
(Formerly Bureau of Health)  
11 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011  
Phone 1-800-821-5821 / Fax 207-287-7443*

**\*\*ADVISORY – Important Information\*\***

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**TO:** Border Medical Officers, EMS, All Hospitals, ICP's, ME Correctional Facilities, ME Lab Facilities, ME Primary Care, PHN's, Public Health, RRC's, School Nurses, State & Federal Agencies

**FROM:** Dora Anne Mills, M.D., M.P.H., Public Health Director

**SUBJECT:** **New Recommendations for Mumps Prevention in Maine**

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**PRIORITY:** Review

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Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC)  
(Formerly Bureau of Health)

## **New Recommendations for Mumps Prevention in Maine**

**Background:** Federal CDC, and state and local health departments across the nation are still coping with an outbreak of mumps that began in Iowa in December 2005 and involved at least 12 additional states. To date, Maine CDC has not received any reports of confirmed mumps in Maine. Nationally, the CDC reported 4,016 confirmed, probable, or suspect cases of mumps as of June 14, 2006.

The national experience indicates that high rates of vaccination with 2 doses of MMR vaccine, especially in school-aged populations, considerably reduced the impact and scope of this outbreak. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) are to administer a 2-dose MMR vaccination series for all children, with the first dose given at ages 12 – 15 months and the second dose at ages 4 – 6 years. Two doses of MMR vaccine are also recommended for school and college entry unless the student presents other evidence of immunity such as a positive IgG titer indicating immunity, or documentation of disease history indicating mumps.

**Recommendations:** Furthermore, in a specially convened meeting on May 17, 2006, the ACIP recommended key changes to the 1998 ACIP recommendations on mumps. Maine CDC is adopting these recommendations for the control of Mumps:

- **Acceptable Presumptive Evidence of Immunity**
  - Documentation of adequate vaccination is now 2 doses of a live mumps virus vaccine instead of 1 dose for
    - School-aged children (i.e., grades K-12).
    - Adults at high risk (i.e., persons who work in health-care facilities, international travelers, and students at post-high school educational institutions).
- **Routine Vaccination for Health-Care Workers**
  - Persons born during or after 1957 without other evidence of immunity: 2 doses of a live mumps virus vaccine.
  - Persons born before 1957 without other evidence of immunity: consider recommending 1 dose of a live mumps virus vaccine.

Also, should an outbreak occur in Maine the recommendations are:

- **For Outbreak Settings**
  - Children aged 1 – 4 years and adults at low risk: if affected by the outbreak, consider a second dose of live mumps virus vaccine (minimum interval between doses = 28 days).
  - Health-care workers born before 1957 without other evidence of immunity: strongly consider recommending 2 doses of live mumps virus vaccine.

Maine CDC continues to work with the federal CDC, hospital ICPs and healthcare providers throughout the State to prevent any cases of mumps. The implementation of these recommendations and the prompt reporting of suspected cases will ensure that Maine does not suffer a similar outbreak to the one being experienced in the mid-west.

**Please report a suspected case of Mumps to the 24-hour disease reporting and consultation line at Maine CDC at 1-800-821-5821.**

**For More Information:** Maine Immunization Program 1-800-867-4775