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**SUBJECT:** Measles Immunity Requirements for Staff and Residents  
**Date:** June 3, 2025  
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**To:** Operators of Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes and Congregate Living Settings

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**Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health reminds all congregate settings that every individual working in your facility, regardless of date of birth, role, or whether they provide direct care, must have confirmed immunity to measles.**

Measles cases are rising in Ontario, including in the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph region. Measles is a highly contagious airborne virus that spreads easily between people and can remain in the air or on surfaces for up to two hours.

Vaccination is the most effective protection:

- One dose provides about 95% effectiveness.
- Two doses provide up to 99% protection.

### **Resident Immunization**

- Born before 1970: Presumed to have natural immunity.
- Born in 1970 or later: Should have two documented doses of a measles-containing vaccine (MMR or MMRV).

### **Staff Immunity Requirements**

**Who is included:** All individuals working in the facility, including clinical and non-clinical staff (e.g., nurses, PSWs, environmental services, dietary, administration, volunteers), must have confirmed immunity, regardless of year of birth.

To be considered immune, staff must have:

- Two documented doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine given after the first birthday, OR
- Lab-confirmed immunity (positive measles bloodwork or documented prior infection)

### **What You Need to Do**

- Review your immunization records to confirm you meet the above requirements.
- If records are missing or incomplete:
  - Contact your healthcare provider to get vaccinated.
  - *Note: Some providers may offer bloodwork to test immunity, but receiving two doses of vaccine is the recommended option if documentation is not available.*

In the event of a measles exposure:

- Only staff with confirmed immunity may continue working.
- Staff who do not have two documented doses of a measles containing vaccine will be excluded from work for 21 days following exposure.

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- Staff who develop symptoms should stay home, contact their healthcare provider and Public Health, and notify their employer.

### **More Information**

For more information, visit [www.wdgpulichealth.ca](http://www.wdgpulichealth.ca) or contact Public Health at 1-800-265-7293 ext. 7006 to speak with a Public Health Nurse.

Thank you for helping to protect your residents, staff, and the community.

### **References:**

1. Web Source. Title of article, date of article. Available at: <link>

### **For more information, please contact:**

Name/Title:	Name
Contact:	Contact (phone and/or email)
Website:	<a href="http://www.wdgpulichealth.ca">www.wdgpulichealth.ca</a>