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FROM:

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Alert: Confirmed case of Measles in an eight month old infant in Peel Region

On February 1st, 2010, Peel Public Health received notification of a case of measles in Peel.

The infant travelled with family members from Karachi, Pakistan to Toronto on PIA airline, flight number 873, on January 23rd, 2010.

Review: Clinical Features of Measles^{1,2}

- Incubation period=10-12 days (max= 21 days)
- Fever
- Cough, coryza, conjunctivitis
- Koplik's spots (small spots with white or bluish white centres on an erythematous base on the buccal mucosa)
- Rash 2 - 4 days after prodrome, 14 days after exposure, persists 5 - 6 days

Please maintain a high level of suspicion for measles if a person presents with any of these symptoms.

Laboratory Diagnosis of Measles

Laboratory confirmation of measles is required.

The following tests should be performed:

- **Acute serology for measles IgM and IgG collected 4 to 28 days after rash onset.**
- Nasopharyngeal or throat swab within 4 days after onset of rash, and/or
- Urine sample (50 mL of clean catch) within 7 days onset of rash

Laboratory requisitions should be clearly marked "stat" and "suspect case of measles".

Infection Control Precautions

A patient suspected to have measles should wear a mask and be placed in a separate room when attending a doctor's office. Ideally, such patients should be assessed at the end of the day. Do not use the exam room where the patient was assessed until at least two hours have elapsed.

Reminder to Physicians to Ensure Immunity

Physicians and staff who are in contact with patients are reminded to ensure their immunity via serology or vaccine record.

Reporting Requirements

Measles is a reportable disease under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

If you suspect measles, call Peel Public Health immediately at **(905) 799-7700**.

After business hours or on statutory holidays, please ask to be connected to the CD PHN on call through the main line (905-799-7700, dial zero).

¹ Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases. (10th Edition, Jan. 2007.) Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

² Control of Communicable Diseases Manual. (18th Edition). Heymann, David. American Public Health Association.