



Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority Inc.



Date: March 19, 2024

To: All Health Directors
All Healthcare workers
Northern Communities, Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority

ACTION PLAN TO MITIGATE RISK OF MEASLES OUTBREAK IN NITHA COMMUNITIES

The increasing number of confirmed measles cases across Canada remains a concern. Getting the MMR vaccine and increasing the community immunization coverage rate is our best defense against the infection. NITHA recommends the following public health measures below to mitigate the risk of measles outbreak in northern First Nation communities.

1. All healthcare and childcare workers should review their MMR immunization status and ensure they are up to date.
2. All adults seen for any immunization services should be assessed for MMR immunization and, if eligible, offered the vaccine. For example, if an individual requires multiple vaccines, MMR should be the priority vaccine to administer during that visit.
3. Please review the immunization records of students in all grades for MMR and update them accordingly. Please consult with parents or caregivers per protocol.
4. In Child Health Clinics, all persons (other children or adults) present at the visit should be assessed for measles immunity.
5. During patient encounters, please inquire about travel plans outside of Canada. If the individual plans to travel, please review their [Publicly Funded MMR vaccine](#) eligibility.
 - a. All adults born between 1957 and 1969 who are travelling abroad may receive 1 publicly funded MMR dose if they meet the specified eligibility criteria.
 - b. Infants 6 months to 11 months who are traveling abroad may receive 1 publicly funded MMR dose. (A dose at 12 and 18 months of age is still required).
6. Immediately report all measles cases, including suspect cases, to the NITHA MHO.
7. Be familiar with the [signs and symptoms](#) of measles.
8. Remember to take a thorough travel history for anyone with fever and/or rash.
9. Be familiar with [infection prevention and control measures](#) for airborne diseases in clinical settings for patients suspected or known to be infected with measles.

Thank you for supporting and implementing these measures. For more information, please visit www.nitha.com or contact NITHA Public Health Unit directly.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dr. Nnamdi Ndubuka".

Dr. Nnamdi Ndubuka
Medical Health Officer

cc:

Nurse Managers, PAGC, MLTC, PBCN, LLRIB, James Smith, Montreal Lake, Sturgeon Lake, Stanley Mission, Waterhen