

Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

Information for parents: suspected measles cases in school or ECEC

Your child has been in contact with a child with suspected/confirmed (delete one) measles who attended school / ECEC while infectious on _____ (dates).

Measles is a serious and highly infectious viral illness. Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent measles. Prompt vaccination can provide protection even after exposure to measles.

Please contact your own GP or after-hours surgery urgently for advice and management if your child:

1. has **never** had a measles (MMR) vaccination
2. has only had **one** measles (MMR) vaccination
3. has a **compromised immune system** (eg due to medications or other illness)

Please present the attached when visit your GP. If your child has never received a measles (MMR) vaccination and cannot be immunised within three days of their *first* contact with measles they should stay home for 14 days from their *last* contact with a confirmed case of measles.

Thank you for your co-operation.



Dr Ramon Pink
Medical Officer of Health

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

A Division of the Canterbury District Health Board

RETURN SLIP (IF REQUIRED)

If your child has received a measles (MMR) vaccination previously, please complete the following declaration for them to bring to school / early childhood education centre tomorrow;

My child _____ (name)

was vaccinated against measles (MMR) as part of routine childhood vaccinations.

Signed _____ Date _____

If your child did not receive at least one measles vaccination (MMR) either as part of routine childhood vaccinations or within three days of contact with measles they should stay home for 14 days from their last contact with measles.

Canterbury

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Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

Information for Health Professionals: measles contact in school or ECEC

_____ (name) has been in contact with a suspected/confirmed (delete one) case of measles who attended school / ECEC while infectious between _____ (dates).

Measles is a serious and highly infectious viral illness. Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent measles. Prompt vaccination can provide protection even after exposure to measles.

If this child can be vaccinated with MMR within 72 hours of *first* contact with the infected case (known as “ring” vaccination), clinical measles may be prevented. This is because the incubation period for the attenuated virus used in the MMR vaccine has an incubation period of 4-6 days, as opposed to 10-14 days in the wild measles virus.

If a contact is given MMR vaccination within 72 hours of first contact with the infected case, nasopharyngeal swab (NPS) for PCR and blood serology should be ordered to ensure that the contact is not developing measles. On the laboratory order form, under clinical condition please note “ring vaccination for MMR” and copy results to Dr. Ramon Pink. The child should only return to school when the lab results have confirmed that the child is not infected with measles (wild type) infection. If lab results indicate infection then the child should be treated as a case.

If the child has only had one MMR, then a follow up MMR should be given a month or more afterwards. These children need not be excluded from school.

If a child has never received a measles (MMR) vaccination and cannot be immunised within three days of their first contact with measles they should stay at home for 14 days from their *last* contact with a confirmed case of measles.

Thank you for your co-operation.



Dr Ramon Pink
Medical Officer of Health
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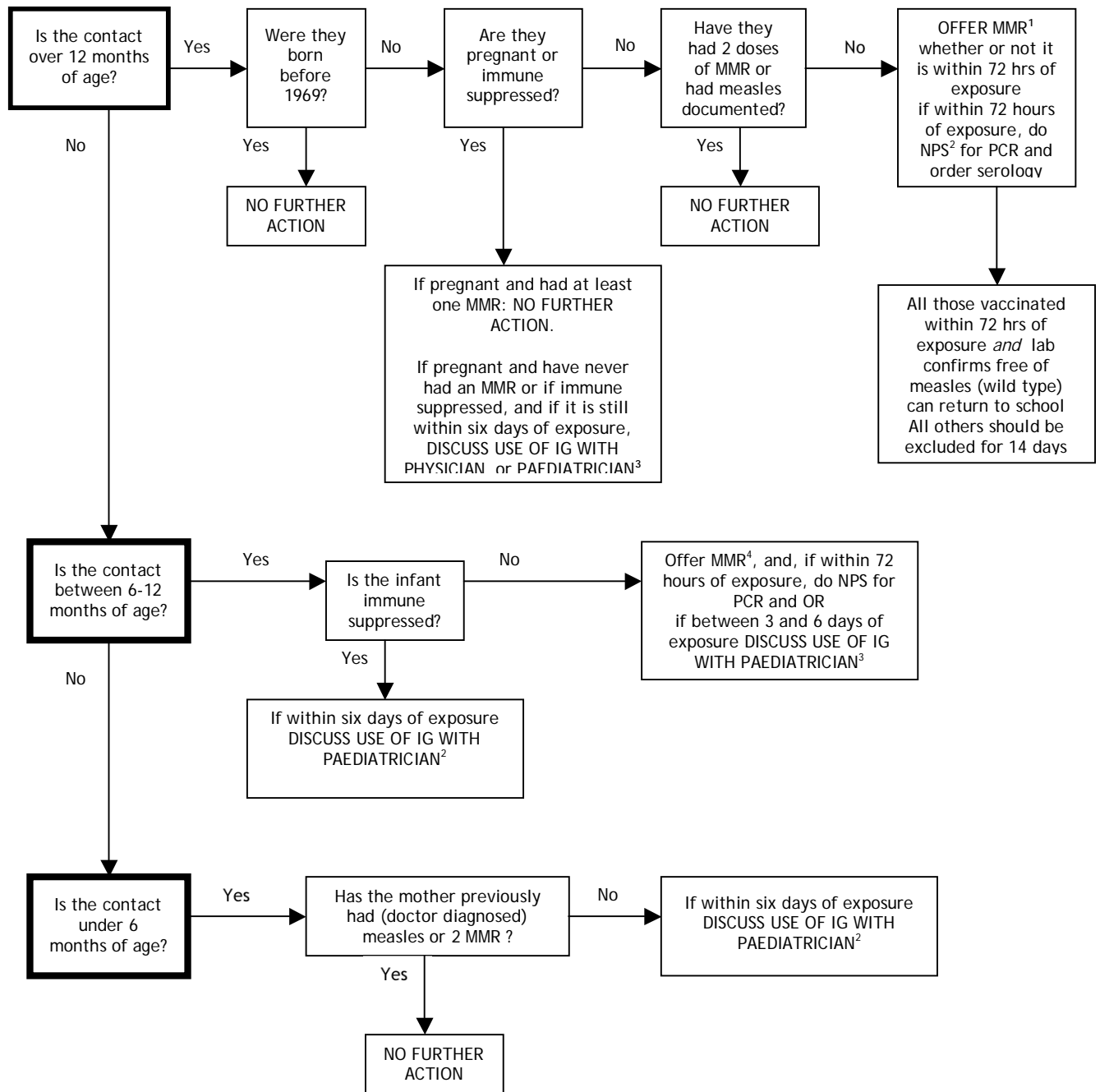
RETURN SLIP (FOR COMPLETION BY GP/PRACTICE NURSE)

_____ has received a measles (MMR) vaccination previously/within three days of contact (delete as applicable) with a measles case at the school / early childhood education and is therefore able to return to school/ECEC after the laboratory confirms that they are free from measles.

Signed _____ (GP/ Practice nurse)

Date _____

Management of CONTACTS of Measles



Notes:

- MMR = measles, mumps and rubella vaccination
- IG = immunoglobulin
- IG is a blood derived product and parental consent is required for immunoglobulin to be given. Consent forms are available from the Ministry of Health and Transfusion Medicine (Blood Bank). GPs should have their own supply of the form.

¹ If this is to be the first MMR, give the second after one month. If this is the second MMR, child need not be excluded from school.

² NPS = Nasopharyngeal swab

³ Subsequently requires follow up to review when it may be appropriate to give MMR for long term measles immunity.

⁴ The contact should subsequently have two MMR doses when over 12 months of age.