

20 August 2019

## Surge in measles cases – please notify by FAX only

- Thank you for your valued work at this busy time.
- Due to the surge in cases, please fax all measles notifications to 09 630 7431.
- It is extremely helpful if the notification form is complete.
- From now on, if the patient with measles is a student or education worker, please ask them (or the parent) to inform the school or Early Learning Service (ELS).
- Please notify on suspicion as ARPHS is seeing an increase in the number of cases *not* notified.
- Please actively promote MMR vaccination to those aged 12 months to 50 years.

### FAX completed notification forms for measles

- Due to a surge in volumes, ARPHS needs all notification forms to be faxed, rather than phoned through. Download the notification form at <http://www.arphs.health.nz/public-health-topics/disease-and-illness/measles/> under Resources: Health professionals. The fax number is on the top of the form - 09 630 7431.
- We appreciate the forms being as complete as possible.
- ARPHS is no longer able to routinely notify general practices of patients with confirmed measles. You will receive lab results to notify patients accordingly.
- As we are seeing a large number of lab confirmed cases that have not been notified, please notify on suspicion.

### When ringing patients to confirm measles

- Please ask confirmed cases to inform any school or ELS that they or their child attends. Tell them their rash onset date and ask them to tell the educational facility this date.
- They should give the *Information for Close Contacts* fact sheet from the [GP Whanau Pack](#) to others they have exposed, and tell their rash onset date to these contacts.
- Patients with measles should call ARPHS on 09 623 4600 if they have left Auckland while infectious.