

Should I test for measles?

a guide for Tennessee healthcare providers

Consider the patient's clinical presentation:

Does the patient have fever, rash (beginning on the face and progressing downward) and conjunctivitis, cough, or runny nose?



If **NO**, not measles, no testing required.



If **YES**, continue.

Consider the patient's history:

Was the patient born before 1957 or have documented history of receiving MMR?

Yes to either; patient was born before 1957 or has a history of receiving MMR



In the 21 days prior to symptom onset, was there any of the following?

- ? known exposure to infected person
- ? international travel
- ? contact w/ international travelers
- ? travel to outbreak state
- ? contact w/ travelers from an outbreak state

If **NO**

not measles, no testing required.



If **YES**

is there an alternate explanation for a rash? (antibiotics, strep, mono)

YES

not measles, no testing required.



NO

Has the patient been symptomatic for > 7 days?

YES

not measles, no testing required.



NO

Measles unlikely, but out of an abundance of caution, may choose to

**Isolate
Call
Collect**

No to both; patient was born after 1957 and does not have a history of receiving MMR



In the 21 days prior to symptom onset, was there any of the following?

- ? known exposure to infected person
- ? international travel
- ? contact w/ international travelers
- ? travel to outbreak state
- ? contact w/ travelers from an outbreak state

If **YES** to any

**Isolate
Call
Collect**

If **NO** to all

Has the patient been symptomatic for > 7 days?

YES

Measles unlikely,

Call

your local health department for consultation.

NO

**Isolate
Call
Collect**

ISOLATE

Isolate the patient according to airborne precautions.

CALL

Call your local health department.

<https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/localdepartments.html>

COLLECT

Collect specimens for laboratory testing.

Throat swab on VTM.
Consult with public health for submission to lab.