

Infection Prevention and Control

FAQ	Answer
<p>Is it correct that people born before 1970 have natural immunity to measles?</p>	<p>The Green Book states: “Individuals born before 1970 are likely to have had all three natural infections and are less likely to be susceptible. MMR vaccines should be offered to such individuals on request, or if they are considered to be at high risk of exposure. Where such adults are being vaccinated because they have demonstrated to be susceptible to measles or rubella, then either two doses should be given, or there should be evidence of seroconversion to the relevant antigen.”</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5e021b9140f0b6665e80187b/Greenbook_chapter_21_Measles_December_2019.pdf</p>
<p>How low should our threshold be for notification to enable testing where the clinical diagnosis is uncertain or unclear?</p>	<p>Please follow national guidance on Notifiable diseases found here: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/notifiable-diseases-and-causative-organisms-how-to-report</p>
<p>When you talk about non-immune - do we include children who have only had one dose of MMR (e.g. awaiting pre-school booster)?</p>	<p>Non-immunity means no MMR has been given. One dose of MMR provides around 95% protection and is therefore <i>partial</i> immunity. In addition, with only one dose, protection wanes over a few years.</p>
<p>Where can I find the national measles guidance?</p>	<p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/653b880ae6c9680014aa9c1f/national-measles-guidelines-october-2023.pdf</p>
<p>Where can I find information on notifiable disease reporting?</p>	<p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/notifiable-diseases-and-causative-organisms-how-to-report</p>



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Where do we get IG testing from for our practice staff?	This is not supported at this time.
What is the advice for duration of isolation in suspected cases?	Follow UKHSA advice for each individual case found here: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65a7a806867cd800135ae9bb/national-measles-guidelines-january-2024.pdf
Has information been distributed to School, universities?	LA partners are working with education establishments and resources have been sent from the ICB comms team to primary, secondary and early learning settings
If you know you are not immune as you have had immunology testing for other reasons and you are a medical professional, do you need a booster MMR vaccine?	Yes, a full course of two doses should be completed as per the Green Book guidance and schedule.
Access to occupational healthcare in primary care.	Healthcare staff can access MMR vaccinations through the GP they are registered with – they are eligible as a registered patient, not as a healthcare worker. The national letter on measles released on 31 October did reference occupational health and Practices as employers, still retain responsibilities for their staff



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How do I isolate a suspected case?	In an area that is separate from other patients and clinicians
What PPE do I use?	Disposable nitrile medical gloves, Disposable apron and FFP3 mask or Hood information on FFP3 requirements found here: https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/nipcm-appendix-11a-v2.7.pdf
Can anyone use FFP3?	You must be fit tested according to Health and safety executive regulations found here: Fit testing basics - Respiratory protective equipment (RPE) (hse.gov.uk)
How do I decontaminate an area or equipment a measles case has used?	Follow manufactures instructions for the equipment and use chlorine-based products for decontamination of an area. Please refer to the National Standards of Health care cleanliness 2021: https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/B0271-national-standards-of-healthcare-cleanliness-2021.pdf
How will contact tracing be completed?	Please see national measles guidance for information on contact tracing: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65a7a806867cd800135ae9bb/national-measles-guidelines-january-2024.pdf



Vaccine

FAQ	Answer
<p>For children who were given two doses of MMR abroad before age of 1, are we repeating vaccination?</p>	<p>The Green Book states: “All travellers to epidemic or endemic areas should ensure that they are fully immunised according to the UK schedule. Infants from six months of age travelling to measles endemic areas with a high incidence of measles, or to an area where there is a current outbreak, who are likely to be mixing with the local population, should receive MMR. As the response to MMR in infants is sub-optimal, where the vaccine has been given before one year of age, immunisation with two further doses of MMR should be given at the recommended ages. Children who are travelling who have received one dose of MMR at the routine age should have the second dose brought forward to at least one month after the first. If the child is under 15 months of age, then the routine pre-school dose (a third dose) should be given in order to ensure full protection. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5e021b9140f0b6665e80187b/Greenbook_chapter_21_Measles_December_2019.pdf</p>
<p>Are we allowed to vaccinate GP staff in house if they haven’t had their MMR vaccines?</p>	<p>It is recommended that the member of staff should seek a vaccine from the practice they are registered with. It is permissible; however, practices need to check and ensure their indemnity cover.</p>
<p>What if a staff member does not wish to be vaccinated?</p>	<p>They cannot be compelled, but the employer has responsibility to ascertain status. CQC mythbusters outlines expectations: “You should be able to show that the practice has an effective employee immunisation programme. This includes demonstrating how you arrange this service. As well as this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all employees should be able to have an occupational health assessment; • new employees should have a pre-employment health assessment. • These assessments should include a review of their immunisation needs.



Vaccine

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<p>Does an adult patient now settled in the UK need an MMR vaccine if they're not sure if they have had any MMR vaccines previously?</p>	<p>If a person's MMR status is unknown, the Green Book advises the person be offered vaccination. Chapter 21 (measles) states: "Unless there is a reliable history of appropriate immunisation, individuals should be assumed to be unimmunised. See chapter 11 for more information. Individuals aged 18 months and over who have not received MMR should receive two doses at least one month apart. An individual who has already received one dose of MMR should receive a second dose to ensure that they are protected."</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5e021b9140f0b6665e80187b/Greenbook_chapter_21_Measles_December_2019.pdf</p>
<p>If someone has been confirmed [as a] case of measles and has not had any dose of MMR vaccine, how soon can they be vaccinated?</p>	<p>This will be answered by UKHSA.</p>
<p>People in older groups will most likely only had one MMR jab; do they need a booster jab?</p>	<p>Yes, catch up vaccines are for all – there is no upper age limit. The Green Book advice is two doses for a complete course.</p>
<p>Where can I access the Green book for Measles ?</p>	<p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5e021b9140f0b6665e80187b/Greenbook_chapter_21_Measles_December_2019.pdf</p>
<p>Where can I access the Green book on immunisations?</p>	<p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/954759/Greenbook_cover_Jan21.pdf</p>
<p>Do we give the second dose early to pre-school children?</p>	<p>The advice is to follow the schedule set out in the Green Book.</p>



Vaccine

FAQ	Answer
<p>When it comes to MMR in unvaccinated infants at 9 months, does this need to be repeated again at say 14 months, as the first dose at 9 months may not have 'caught on', as the child had possible residual immunity from mother? (This was good practice in Southern Africa)</p>	<p>Due to interference from maternal antibody, the efficacy of a dose of vaccine provided between 6 to 11 months of age is lower than that provided at 12 to 13 months, and therefore doses offered before one year of age should be discounted and children should be offered two doses of MMR vaccine according to the national schedule.</p>
<p>Some parents are still worried about the combined MMR vaccine. Is there anywhere we can get single vaccines?</p>	<p>Only the combined MMR vaccine is available on the NHS. Single vaccinations are not available on the NHS and are not recommended.</p>
<p>Is ImmForm able to supply more weekly doses of Priorix?</p>	<p>UKHSA are responsible for vaccine supply through Immform. We do not anticipate any supply problems and if difficulties are encountered will intervene on your behalf. Contact -covidsystemsvacsinfo@nhs.net;</p>
<p>If an NHS staff member has had the MMR blood test and they are showing as immune, do they need the MMR vaccine?</p>	<p>From the CQC myth busters' guidance: "If staff do not have the required immunisations, you must record a clear rationale for the decision. This should include an appropriate risk assessment. Staff with underlying medical conditions should have a personalised assessment and personal risk assessment"</p>

