



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
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Health Advisory

Obtaining Travel & Immunization History Always Recommended – Update on Measles, Avian Flu, and Mumps - January 31, 2017

Public Health would like to take this opportunity to remind local medical providers of the importance of obtaining a travel and immunization history from their patients. Humboldt County residents are quite well-traveled – in the recent past, Public Health has monitored returning residents for Ebola exposure in west Africa and counseled numerous patients on Zika exposures during their travels to Central and South America.

Currently, we want to highlight 3 ongoing outbreaks that may affect Humboldt travelers:

- Measles Outbreak in Southern California
- Mumps Outbreak in Washington State
- Avian Flu in China

Actions Requested

- Ask all patients for a travel history, including domestic travel
- Ask all patients for an immunization history
- Remind additional medical staff (e.g. MAs) to ask patients for a travel history
- If you suspect avian flu, mumps, or measles – contact Public Health at 707-268-2182 for guidance and testing options.

Actions Public Health is Taking

- Public Health continues to monitor local, state, and federal alerts for existing and potential infectious disease threats.

Additional Information

- Measles - Since December 2016, there have been 24 confirmed outbreak-associated cases in Southern CA. Additional information can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>
- Mumps - On-going in Washington state with 142 cases reported in 2016. <http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/420-187WeeklyMumpsUpdate2016.pdf>
- Avian Flu – From September 2016 – present, there have been 225 human H7N9 infections reported in mainland China. With the recent Chinese Lunar New Year, there is expected to be increased travel to and from China. <https://humboldt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/57509>

Contact information

- Humboldt County Public Health is now posting Provider Communications online, as well as by fax. For more information, please visit: <https://humboldt.gov.org/2237/Provider-Communication-from-Public-Health>
- If you would like to sign up to receive alerts via email or on your phone, please visit: <https://humboldt.gov.org/list.aspx?ListID=344>
- The Humboldt County Public Health Communicable Disease Reporting Line is 707-268-2182. This is a message line but is actively monitored during regular business hours M-F 0800-1700. This line also contains information on how to contact the Health Officer after hours.