



Ref: PHD/DCS/CDG/C- 13/2016

Date: 16 May, 2016

Reminder Circular

To: *All Doctors, Nurses and Health Care Workers in Health Centers, Hospitals and Private Clinics*

Subject: Measles Alert

Measles is a highly contagious viral illness which spreads especially among susceptible individuals particularly if the vaccination coverage is low in the target population. Recently, confirmed measles cases were identified in the Kingdom of Bahrain at a rate higher than the previous years among those who did not take or complete two doses of MMR.

Accordingly, all doctors and nurses are kindly requested to be on the alert and to **report** any suspected measles cases presenting with fever and rash to Diseases Control Section within 24 hours. In addition, **blood** sample for measles IgM and **urine** sample should be collected. A five days leave should be given for any suspected measles case.

For **notification** of suspected measles cases kindly ensure sending the notification form with all patient's details including the contact number to Diseases Control Section - Communicable Disease Group Fax No. 17279268, 17279290. For more information please contact Hot line Tel. 66399868, from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Waleed Khalifa Al Manea
Ag. Assistant undersecretary for
Primary Care and Public Health

Attachment:

- *Instructions for administration of MMR vaccine in the campaign.*

Instructions for administration of MMR vaccine in the campaign:

- Vaccinate all the population in the age range from 1-15 years old in all the blocks that belongs to the catchment area or to the school.
- Exclude the children who received the MMR vaccine in less than one month time.
- Ask and screen for any contraindication for MMR vaccination including:
 - Life threatening allergic reaction to neomycin, or any other component of MMR vaccine.
 - Primary and acquired Immunodeficiency.
 - Patients with malignancy on chemotherapy.
 - Patients on long term corticosteroid therapy (A dose equivalent to either ≥ 2 mg/kg of body weight or 20 mg/day of prednisolone or equivalent for persons who weigh >10 kg, administered for ≥ 2 weeks).
 - Wait at least 1 month after discontinuation of high dose systemically absorbed corticosteroid therapy before administering MMR vaccine.
 - Ask If blood, plasma and /or immune globulin were given and accordingly decide the timing (table attach).
 - Pregnancy (women should be advised to use contraceptive method and avoid getting pregnant for at least 4 weeks after vaccination).

- Post pone vaccination if the children have moderate to severe illness.
- All the information related to the administration of MMR vaccine should be registered in the vaccination certificate including: Dose (campaign dose), Date of vaccination, Manufacturer, Site of injection, Batch and lot number, Appointment for second dose if required, and Signature of the staff administered the vaccine.
- MMR vaccine is live attenuated vaccine and a time period of at least 4 weeks should be kept before administering another live injectable vaccine.
- Report any case of adverse event following immunization (AEFI) to Disease Control Section (DCS) immediately if it occurs.
- Educate & counsel about the risk to benefit of vaccine prior to vaccine administer.

Recommended Interval between Administrations of Immune Globulin and/or Blood Products and MMR or Varicella Vaccines

<i>Product type</i>	<i>Dose</i>	<i>Recommended Interval in months</i>
Plasma and platelet products	10 mg/kg	7
Reconstituted RBCs	10 mg/kg	3
Washed RBCs	10 mg/kg	0
Immune globulin (Ig)	0.02-0.06 mL/kg	3
	0.25 mL/kg	5
	0.50 mL/kg	6
Intravenous immune globulin (IVIg)	160 mg/kg	7
	320 mg/kg	8
	640 mg/kg	9
	> 640-1280 mg/kg	10
	> 1280-2000 mg/kg	11