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PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

To: Health Care Providers
From: Dr. Isaac Benowitz, State Epidemiologist
Subject: **Standing Order for Administration of Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccine to Children and Teens by Qualified Pharmacy Licensees**
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Standing Order for Administration of Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccine to Children and Teens by Qualified Pharmacy Licensees

Summary

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services' Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) has issued a [standing order \(PDF\)](#) authorizing qualified pharmacy licensees to administer the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine to individuals 3 to 17 years of age. Individuals 18 years and older can already receive MMR vaccine in pharmacies under existing pharmacist authority.

Background

Under a State standing order released today, qualified pharmacy licensees may administer measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine to individuals 3–17 years of age who are not up to date on MMR vaccine. A separate doctor's order is not needed.

The MMR standing order for individuals 3–17 years of age expands access for the community, ensuring children and teens can conveniently receive a vaccination against measles in a trusted, professional environment outside of the medical home.

The Maine CDC recommends that providers advise caregivers to confirm whether local pharmacies charge additional fees for vaccinations administered outside their medical home.

Who Can Receive a Vaccination Against Measles at a Pharmacy?

- Children age 3–17 who are not up to date on their MMR immunizations.
 - Coverage for children who have MaineCare: MaineCare covers vaccination at pharmacies for youth ages 12 and older. For children under 12 years, caregivers should contact the child’s primary care provider about receiving the MMR vaccine, typically at no cost, in the medical home or at another Vaccines for Children (VFC) location.
 - All Maine children, including uninsured children and those covered by MaineCare, can receive the MMR vaccination at locations participating in the VFC program, including primary care offices, school-based health centers, local public health clinics in Portland and Bangor, and vaccine clinics offered by Maine CDC’s public health nurses.
- Adults 18 years of age and older who do not have evidence of immunity to measles. Acceptable evidence of immunity against measles includes at least one of the following:
 - Written documentation of adequate vaccination
 - Laboratory evidence of immunity
 - Laboratory confirmation of measles
 - Birth before 1957

Further information on MMR recommendations can be found at [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\)](#) and [American Academy of Family Physicians \(AAFP\)](#).

The Standing Order put in place to allow this increased access is effective as of May 15, 2026, and remains in effect until withdrawn or until January 1, 2027, whichever comes first.

For More Information:

- Maine CDC: Measles: www.maine.gov/dhhs/measles
- U.S. CDC: Measles: www.cdc.gov/measles/index.html
- U.S. CDC: Measles: Travel: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/travel/index.html>
- U.S. CDC: Measles Cases and Outbreaks: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html>