

Wednesday 2 October 2019

Measles alert – Macquarie Park, North Ryde and Epping

Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) is urging people to stay alert for measles symptoms after a person contracted the illness in Brazil or New Zealand and visited areas in the District while infectious.

NSLHD Public Health Unit Director Dr Michael Staff said the case visited the following locations whilst infectious between 25 September and 30 September:

- Macquarie Shopping Centre on Thursday afternoon 26/9/2019, 16.30pm to 17.00pm
- Royal North Shore Hospital Emergency Department on Friday 27/9/2019, 2:00am to 6:15am and on Monday 30/9/2019, 8:30am to 15:40pm
- 15:22 train from Macquarie University station to Epping Station and 16:28 train from Epping Station to Macquarie University Station on Friday 27/9/2019
- Asian supermarket on Cambridge Street, Epping on Friday 27/9/2019 between 15:30pm to 16:15pm
- 10:01am train from Macquarie University station to Epping Station and 12:18pm train from Epping Station to North Ryde Station on Saturday 28/9/2019
- Chicken On Oxford, 11 Oxford Street, Epping on Saturday 28/9/2019 around 11:30am
- Coles supermarket, Epping on Saturday 28/9/2019 around 12:00 noon
- Harvey Norman and Domayne North Ryde on Saturday 28/9/2019 from 12:40pm to 16:50pm

People who were at the above locations at the times mentioned should be alert for measles symptoms until Wednesday 19 October 2019.

Dr Staff said none of the locations visited by this person pose an ongoing risk.

“It can take up to 18 days for symptoms to appear following exposure to a person with measles. Anyone who develops symptoms should arrange to see their GP and call ahead to ensure they don’t wait alongside other patients,” Dr Staff said.

“Symptoms to watch out for include fever, sore eyes and a cough followed three or four days later by a red, blotchy rash that spreads from the head to the rest of the body.”

Measles is a vaccine preventable disease that is spread through the air when someone who is infectious with the disease coughs or sneezes.

NSW Health makes the measles vaccine available free for infants from six months of age, and anyone born during or after 1966 who doesn’t have two documented doses of measles vaccine.

“If you’re unsure whether you’ve been vaccinated against measles in the past, it’s safe to have a dose,” he said.

For further information please see <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/infectious/measles/Pages/default.aspx>