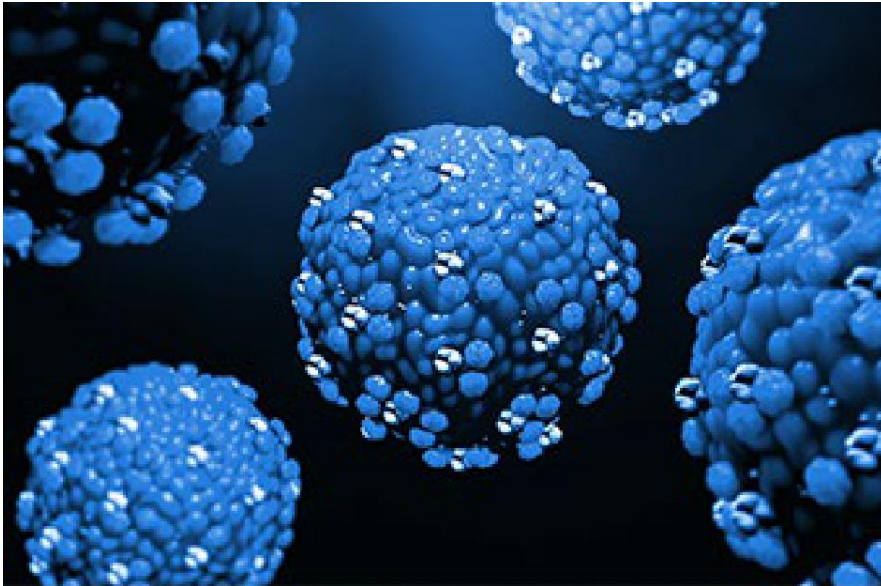




Measles



Overview

This is a disease you get from a virus. Measles isn't common. That's because most of us are vaccinated as children. But when an unvaccinated person is exposed to it, they can be infected. They can spread it to others.

Causes

The virus that causes measles is called "rubeola." It grows in the nose and throat of an infected person. It spreads in drops of moisture that are released in coughs and sneezes. You can inhale these germs. Or, you can touch a surface where they land and transfer them to your eyes or mouth.

Symptoms

Symptoms appear 10 to 14 days after exposure. An infected person will usually develop a skin rash with large, flat blotches. They may have fever, cough, a runny nose and inflamed eyes. They may have a sore throat. And, measles can cause tiny white spots on the inner side of the cheeks.

Treatment

Measles is treated with rest, fluids and medications. These reduce fever and discomfort. A person who has been exposed very recently may benefit from a post-exposure vaccine. Your healthcare provider will create a care plan that's right for you.