

**An Important Message from
The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)**

MMR Vaccine Recommendations in the Context of Local Outbreak

Background:

Texas Department of State Health Services' March 6, 2025 [Measles Outbreak Case Definition](#) describes the outbreak of measles centered in the South Plains region of West Texas, defining the outbreak area as currently limited to six counties: Dawson, Gaines, Lynn, Martin, Terry, and Yoakum. The case definition outlines immunization recommendations for that area, including considering an early dose of MMR vaccine for infants ages 6 to 11 months and a second dose for adults who have received only one.

Key Details:

Texas Medicaid coverage of routine vaccines for measles follows FDA approval and mirrors ACIP recommendations, which recommend MMR vaccination for children 12 months of age and up. [ACIP guidelines](#) during a measles outbreak recommend that "infants aged 6–11 months should receive a single dose of MMR. For measles postexposure prophylaxis in unvaccinated persons, 1 dose of MMR should be administered within 72 hours of exposure to a person with infectious measles, and the 2-dose series (i.e., the second of 2 MMR doses) should be completed ≥ 28 days later."

Texas Medicaid MCOs are reminded that Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) coverage entitles Medicaid enrolled infants, children and adolescents to any treatment or procedure that fits within any of the categories of Medicaid-covered services listed in Section 1905(a) of the Social Security Act. EPSDT requires all states to provide all medically necessary treatment for correction or amelioration of physical or mental illnesses and conditions to eligible clients birth through 20 years of age when federal financial participation is available, even if the services are not covered under the Medicaid state plan. Early administration of the MMR vaccination may be covered under the EPSDT benefit when medically necessary due to the current measles outbreak in the state.

Resources:

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/news-alerts/measles-outbreak-case-definition>

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/wr/mm7146a1.htm>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/news-alerts/measles-outbreak-2025>

<https://www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html>

Questions?

Please contact UnitedHealthcare Customer Service at 888-887-9003, 8 a.m.–6 p.m. CT, Monday–Friday.