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The Measles



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What are the Measles?

The measles is a **respiratory infection** that can be spread very easily. It is caused by a virus that acts quickly and mostly affects children. This disease mainly affects the upper respiratory passages.

Why is getting the Measles dangerous?

Measles is one of the leading causes of death among young children under the age of 5 worldwide. In 2014 over 100,000 people died because of the measles. Recently, fewer people have died because more people are being **vaccinated**.



Young children who have not been vaccinated for measles are much more likely to catch the sickness than others. Measles outbreaks usually happen in poor countries, and places that have experienced natural disasters, or wars. Unfortunately, people in these countries do not have access to vaccines or proper medical care. Recently in 2014/2015, the United States, as well as other countries, experienced a measles outbreak due to parents not vaccinating their children like they were supposed to.

How is Measles Spread?

Ecobottle Sample



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Respiratory infection: An infection that affects the breathing passages of the body including the lungs.
Vaccinated: Someone who has received a vaccine (a small, dead, portion of the virus) to protect them.
Droplets: A very small drop of liquid.

What are the Signs of the Measles?

When a person gets measles they will experience the following:

- Fever
- Watery eyes
- A mild cough
- Body weakness and headaches
- Lots of mucus (snot or spit)
- White spots inside the cheeks and at the back of the mouth

The white spots appear about three days before the rash and are therefore used as an early warning sign. After the first few days of these symptoms, a skin rash develops on the forehead and spreads all over the body.



Problems that Measles can cause

Measles can affect our lungs and other parts of our respiratory system and cause other illnesses such as **bronchitis** (Bron-Keye-Tis) and **pneumonia** (New-Mo-Nee-Yah).

What should a person do if they get the Measles? (Treatment)

Ecobottle Sample

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How do I prevent getting the Measles?

Immunization (E-Myou-Neye-Za-Shun) is the most effective way to prevent measles. Before people began receiving immunizations in 1980, over 2 million people died every year from the measles compared with approximately 100,000 in 2014. The name of the vaccine is the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine. It is usually given for the first time at the age of one year to one year and three months. Children are given it a second time when they reach four to six years of age.



Bronchitis: An illness that makes it hard to breath and causes coughing.

Pneumonia: A disease that makes it hard to breath and leaves you feeling very sick.

Reading Comprehension Questions:

1. What are the measles?
2. Do you
3. Where do measles outbreaks usually happen?
4. Who
5. How is the measles virus spread?
6. What is
7. According to the article, what are two serious health problems that measles can cause?
8. How do
9. What is the best way to prevent measles?

Extension Questions:

Use your search engine to answer the following

10. Find
11. For various reasons,

Ecobottle Sample



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TWF READING

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