

MORE MEASLES CASES SHOWING UP ACROSS DURHAM

DURHAM - It all started on March 4, 2026, Travellers at Toronto's Pearson airport were exposed to measles. Toronto Public Health says those on certain flights at the airport may have been exposed to measles.

Toronto Public Health is investigating a confirmed case of measles, with members of the public possibly being exposed on the following flights and location on Sunday, February 22, 2026:

- Flight AV579 (Guatemala City to San Salvador) on February 22

-Avianca Flight AV324 (San Salvador to Toronto) on February 22

-Toronto Pearson International Airport: Terminal 1 Arrivals on February 22 from approximately 1:40 to 4:10 p.m.

Public health says if you were there you should monitor for symptoms until March 15.

Symptoms can include fever, runny nose, cough, red eyes, a red rash that begins on the face and spreads down the body and small blue-white spots that can appear on the inside of the mouth and throat.

On March 6th, 2026 Durham Region Health Department investigated confirmed case of measles in Durham Region. Durham Region Health Department has received confirmation of a case of measles in a local unimmunized child in Whitby.

The Health Department is investigating and following up directly with known contacts in Durham Region who may have been exposed to the measles virus.

The Health Department's investigation has determined that members of the public may have been exposed at the following locations during the dates and times noted in the table below. Individuals who believe they may have been exposed are advised to monitor for signs and symptoms of measles.

Exposure may have occurred at the following locations during the dates and times noted in the table below. Location Address Date Time Watch for symptoms until (21 days after exposure) Measles case confirmed in Durham Region; public potentially exposed at Oshawa walk-in clinic and emergency department.

Health officials say an unimmunized child may have exposed others to the highly contagious virus in Oshawa. The Durham Region Health Department says it has confirmed a case of measles in an unimmunized child from the area.

Officials are investigating and following up directly with the child's known contacts, and say members of the public may have been exposed to

measles at two locations in Oshawa in recent weeks.

Where: **Ritson North Urgent Care**

When: Feb. 26 from 1:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and March 2 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. freestar

Where: **Lakeridge Health Oshawa**, emergency department waiting room

When: March 2 from 11:25 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Infants under one-year old, unimmunized pregnant individuals, and people with weakened immune systems are at increased risk of complications from measles.

If you were at a walk-in clinic on Ritson Road in Oshawa or the emergency department at Lakeridge Health in Oshawa recently, you may have been exposed to the measles.

The person with measles had recently travelled internationally. A new variant of mpox has been detected in Ontario. Toronto Public Health reported two cases of the mpox variant clade lb. These are the first cases of this variant in Toronto and across the province.

Both cases are linked to travel.

What is clade lb?

Toronto Public Health said the city's mpox activity since 2022 has only involved the llb strain, which has been responsible for global outbreaks in the past few years.

The newly detected strain, clade lb, has been associated with outbreaks in parts of central and eastern Africa. It has been identified in small numbers of travel-related cases internationally, including in several European countries, public health officials said. "Both clade lb and llb mpox can cause painful skin lesions, fever and other flu-like symptoms," Toronto Public Health said in a news release.

Prevention and treatment are the same for both types of mpox.

The Health Department advises anyone who believes they may have been exposed to the measles virus at the above locations to do the following:

Confirm you and your family members have two doses of measles vaccine (MMR or MMRV); those born before 1970 would likely have had measles illness as a child and are protected. Individuals who are unsure of their vaccination status should check with their health care professional.

If you develop symptoms, stay home and do not attend work or school. Call ahead before visiting a clinic or hospital and let them know you may have measles to allow them to prepare and prevent the spread of the virus. Wear a well-fitting mask when getting a medical assessment.

Individuals who do not have access to a health care professional may also call Durham Health Connection Line at 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729.

Measles is a highly contagious disease that spreads easily to those who are not immunized or have not previously had measles. Infants under one-year old, unimmunized pregnant individuals, and people with weakened immune systems are at increased risk of complications from measles.

Just this week Durham Health reported: Durham Region Health Department has received confirmation of an additional case of measles related to a previous exposure site.

This brings the total to four confirmed cases in Durham Region (see below). "The Health Department is following up with identifiable contacts who may have been exposed to the measles virus," said a region statement.

It said members of the public may have been exposed at the following locations. These individuals are advised to monitor for signs and symptoms of measles.

Exposure may have occurred at the following locations during the dates and times noted in the table below. Public notifications regarding previous exposures sites were issued on March 8 and March 6.

Please visit durham.ca/measles for a list of all measles exposure sites in Durham. Watch for symptoms until (21 days after exposure)

Lakeridge Health Oshawa Emergency Department 1 Hospital Court, Oshawa March 15 to March 16 8:38 p.m. to 4:46 a.m. April 6, 2026

Durham Region Transit Route #901 Simcoe bus in either direction R o u t e #901 Simcoe bus in either direction March 15 8:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. April 5, 2026

Durham Region Transit Route #901 Simcoe bus in either direction R o u t e #901 Simcoe bus in either direction March 16 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. April 6, 2026.

Remember take every precaution possible as this is highly transmittable. If you suspect to have in contact. Call your family doctor and explain to them your situation and your concern.

Do not walk in to the local clinic and or Hospital as if you are infected. You may infect many more people without intention.



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