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Mid-Michigan District Health Department

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Measles reported

Stanton, MI~ The Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD) has been notified of two confirmed cases of measles in students who attend schools in Cadillac. One of the infected students attended a basketball game at Mt. Pleasant High School between Flint Beecher High School and Carson City Crystal High School on March 11, 2008.

Measles is one of the most highly contagious viral illnesses. The incubation period is 7-12 days with an average being 10 days. Symptoms include fever, conjunctivitis (pink eye), cough, small white or bluish spots on inside the mouth, and a red blotchy rash with a sandpaper-like quality. The rash begins on the face and spreads to the rest of the body and lasts 4-7 days.

Measles can be prevented by the highly effective and safe measles vaccine. Parents are urged to verify that their child's Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR) vaccination is up-to-date. Children should receive their first dose of MMR between 12-15 months of age and their second dose between 4-6 years of age. Measles can also be prevented or lessened in an unvaccinated person if they receive a dose of a MMR within four days of exposure.

Parents of children who attended the game who have not received two doses of MMR should consult their family physician.

Please report all cases and suspected cases of measles to MMDHD by calling Laura Grosskopf, Communicable Disease Nurse at 989-831-3615 or visit MMDHD's website for more information at www.mmdhd.org.

Mid-Michigan District Health Department serves the residents of Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm Counties.

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