TO: EZIZ

FROM: CDPH

SUBJECT: Measles communications to providers

DATE: 4/17/19

Measles outbreak: know the facts

Californians have measles. As of April 10, 2019, there have been <u>21 reported cases of measles</u> across ten counties (Butte, Calaveras, Los Angeles, Placer, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta and Tehama).

Several cases were travelers from countries <u>where measles outbreaks are occurring, such as the Philippines and the Ukraine</u>. Measles is a highly contagious disease that spreads through the air when someone who is ill with the disease coughs or sneezes. Once travelers return to or visit the United States, the disease can spread rapidly among others who are not vaccinated, including infants.

Please make sure your patients:

1.   **Get immunized before international travel** –Infants 6 months through 11 months of age should receive one dose of measles vaccine (MMR). Children 12 months of age and older should receive two doses of MMR vaccine separated by at least 28 days. Children should be fully vaccinated with MMR vaccine at least 2 weeks before departure.

2.   **Are aware of measles signs and symptoms and seek treatment early upon their return.** Measles often begins with a high fever, followed by a cough, runny nose, red and watery eyes. **Help patients identify symptoms of measles by posting <u>this flyer</u>** in your waiting room and exam rooms. (The measles rash typically appears three to five days later, and by that time, your infected patient may have spread the measles virus to vulnerable patients.)

 3. **Remind family and friends overseas to get immunized before they visit California.**

Loved ones need to be protected against measles before they travel. If they develop measles symptoms during their stay, have them stay away from other people and promptly call a doctor.

To download additional measles resources, visit: http://eziz.org/resources/measles/. For more information about measles, please visit: www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/measles.aspx.