
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 23, 2015

For additional information contact:

Lisa LaPlante at (616) 632-7182 or Lisa.LaPlante@kentcountymi.gov

UPDATE: Kent County Child's Test Negative for Measles

UPDATE: The Michigan Department of Community Health says preliminary test results are negative for measles. Further diagnosis information is not available to the Kent County Health Department.

FROM FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2015:

GRAND RAPIDS – The Kent County Health Department (KCHD) has fielded media inquiries regarding a child who is being tested for Measles. KCHD has been in consultation with the Michigan Department of Community Health regarding this case. Clinical information received from the treating physicians is consistent with a rash illness, but are not fully consistent with measles. Further testing by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention must be done to confirm a diagnosis of measles. Results should be available late next week. The child has not reached the age range for vaccination (12 months-15 months). Parents are self-isolating the child based on CDC recommendations as a precautionary measure.

“There are inconsistencies in the child’s symptoms compared to the case definition of measles. Still, this situation should remind all of us that community-based vaccination programs provide important protection for babies that are too young to receive the vaccine themselves,” said Adam London, Administrative Health Officer of the Kent County Health Department. “All residents should make sure they are up-to-date on their MMR (Measles – Mumps – Rubella) vaccines and boosters. Contact your health care provider if you have questions/concerns.”

More information on vaccines can be found at www.accesskent.com/immunizations.

###

KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 260 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and three satellite clinics located in Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit www.accesskent.com/health.

700 FULLER AVE. NE, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503