

Check your MMR vaccine status for lifelong protection

UKHSA have issued statements regarding potential measles outbreaks advising you to check your MMR immunisation status.

Following [UKHSA modelling](#) published last year, a [joint letter from UKHSA and NHS England](#) was sent to health professionals and Directors of Public Health in England to advise colleagues of the risk of a potential measles outbreak following the recent situation in London and Birmingham due to sub-optimal uptake of the MMR vaccine.

Health professionals are being advised regarding protocols and processes to follow if a suspected case of measles is identified; details of the MMR vaccine and how best to reach under-vaccinated communities.

UKHSA has updated its



available resources which can be accessed via the following link [on the website](#). Resources include guidance around the identification of measles, and organisations being aware of their staff's immunity and MMR status.

UKHSA has created a [variety of social media assets](#) which encourage people to check they and their children, households and healthcare workers are up

to date with MMR vaccines. [A video from Dr. Colin Campbell](#), Consultant Epidemiologist at UKHSA, explains the infectivity of the measles virus and provides information on the vaccine.

A [blog on immunisations](#) in which Vanessa Saliba, UKHSA's Consultant Epidemiologist for Immunisations, outlines the importance of protecting children through vaccination.

Other publications and resources on MMR for can be downloaded and ordered for free by healthcare professionals on the [health publications website](#).

The IPC ICB team have also developed a suite of resources available on the [ICB website](#).

Reducing the environmental impact in healthcare

SUSTAINABILITY in healthcare, particularly in infection control, is essential for reducing environmental impact and optimising resource use whilst maintaining patient and staff safety. By adopting eco-friendly practices that promote effective infection control measures, healthcare facilities can improve patient outcomes, reduce

costs, and contribute to a healthier environment for all.

The Somerset ICB Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) team is excited to announce our involvement in a campaign to safely reduce glove use across the system, launching on May 5th in conjunction with the World Health

Organisation's Hand Hygiene Day.

This initiative aims to raise awareness about the environmental impact of excessive glove usage in healthcare settings while encouraging the adoption of more sustainable practices. Stay tuned for additional initiatives as we continue our journey towards sustainable infection control. Your involvement and support are greatly appreciated.



Diary dates

THE next virtual IPC clinic will be held on Wednesday 3 April between 2pm-4pm, and rather than booking a slot, you can access the clinic via this [link](#) where one of our practitioners will be available to answer any questions.

Lead IPC Nurse Development Day

The development day on Wednesday 6 March is now fully booked. If this day goes well there will be another planned for October.

Primary Care Good Practice Guide change

THE Primary Care Good Practice Guide has been superseded by the [National IPC Manual](#) as of April 2023, update in October 2023.