

Initial actions required when risk assessing for suspected measles



Confirmed cases of measles have been identified in Somerset. Symptomatic individuals are most likely to contact primary care first, therefore staff need to be able to:

1

Initiate robust triage

Clear signage and trained reception staff are key to directing patients and minimising transmission risks within healthcare environments.

Appropriate measures include directing potentially infectious patients towards telephonic triage and virtual consultation and placing those requiring in-person review within isolated environments—preferably with appointments scheduled at the end of the day to minimise exposure risks.

In cases of acute illness, adhere to the appropriate pathways for hospital admission or review, ensuring that the receiving organisation/unit is informed of the individuals potential measles status.

2

Notify UKHSA

Report all suspected cases urgently via phone to your local Health Protection Team (HPT).

0300 303 8162

swhpt@ukhsa.gov.uk

<https://www.gov.uk/health-protection-team>

The HPT will conduct a risk assessment, advise or arrange specimen and/or oral fluid testing and advise on further public health action.

3

Ensure appropriate use of PPE if telephonic/virtual consultation not possible

The PPE required, as set out in the [National Infection Prevention & Control Manual \(NIPCM\)](#) is the same for primary care as other settings, i.e. a minimum of gloves, apron, eye/face protection and respiratory protective equipment (RPE) (eg a fit-tested, fit-checked FFP3 respirator).

An FFP3 respirator should be worn by staff regardless of vaccination status, when caring for a suspected or confirmed case of measles.

For more information on signs and symptoms of measles visit: