



**PIMA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Pima County Health Department Investigating Measles Case in Tucson**

Tucson, Arizona – January 20, 2010 – Pima County Health Department (PCHD) is actively investigating a confirmed case of measles that was diagnosed in an individual who recently returned from a trip outside the United States. This individual spent some time in the community before being diagnosed; causing concern that people not immune to measles may have been exposed. Health Department officials recommend that all Pima County residents receive vaccination against measles. “People should check their immunization records or check with their physician to make sure they are vaccinated,” said PCHD Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Michelle McDonald, “if you have not been vaccinated or are unsure of your vaccination status we recommend that you get vaccinated to prevent any chances of infection.”

Measles is a respiratory disease caused by a virus that can lead to fever, runny nose, cough and a rash all over the body. It is spread through the air by breathing, coughing or sneezing which makes it very contagious for people who have not been vaccinated. Measles is very rare in the United States, however, sporadic cases can occur if visitors from other countries or US citizens traveling abroad become infected before or during travel.

If you or your child needs vaccination, please contact your healthcare provider or a pharmacy that provides vaccinations. Children can also receive vaccination at PCHD’s walk-in clinics. Please visit [www.pimahealth.org](http://www.pimahealth.org) for more information on times and locations for these clinic sites.

If you are experiencing any of the symptoms noted above, contact your healthcare provider, healthcare facility, or urgent care **before** going in for a visit. This can help them provide you with the appropriate care and prevent the possibility of accidentally spreading the infection. For general information about measles please go to the PCHD website at [www.pimahealth.org](http://www.pimahealth.org), or call our disease hotline at 520-243-7800 after 8:00AM tomorrow (01/21/2011).

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