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MEDIA ALERT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Measles Case Confirmed in Clark County

(Las Vegas, Nev. – April 24, 2000) – The Clark County Health District has confirmed three cases of measles, one in Clark County and two in neighboring Nye County. Health officials are urging parents to ensure that their children are appropriately immunized against the disease. Children and adults who have not received the measles vaccination can be immunized at any Health District location.

Measles, or rubeola, is an acute, highly contagious viral rash illness. It is spread by direct contact with nasal or throat secretions of infected people, or by airborne transmission. Initially, an infected person may have a runny nose, cough and slight fever. The eyes may become red and sensitive to light while the fever consistently rises to 101 degrees Fahrenheit or greater. The red, blotchy rash usually appears on the third to seventh day. The rash begins on the face and then spreads over the entire body, lasting four to seven days.

Symptoms usually appear in 10-12 days, although they may occur as early as eight, or as late as 13 days after exposure.

For more information regarding immunization services, contact the CCHD's Immunization Clinic at 383-1357. Suspected cases of measles should be reported to the Health District's Office of Epidemiology at 383-1378.

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