

Get your measles vaccination now

schützt
einfach.

Protect yourself and those around you
against measles, mumps and rubella.

More information on impfen.gv.at/masern

What are measles?

Measles are no harmless childhood disease, but a **highly contagious viral disease**. Any unprotected person may catch an infection with the measles virus: babies, children, adolescents, and adults.

Measles can cause **severe complications** and **secondary diseases**.

Possible measles symptoms are:

- High temperature
- A rash (red, blotchy patches)
- Pink eye

How do you get infected?

Measles are transmitted through airborne infection (speaking, coughing, sneezing). There is a risk of infection already 4 days before the rash appears.

- Around **1 of 5 patients** experience severe outcomes with bronchitis, inflammation of the middle ear, and/or pneumonia.
- In some **1-2 of 1,000 cases** a life-threatening encephalitis occurs.
- Around **1 of 600 affected children** under the age of 1 year develop a special form of encephalitis (SSPE, subacute sclerosing panencephalitis). This late effect of a measles infection is always fatal.



How to protect against measles:

- The **combined inoculation against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR jab)** offers long-lasting protection against severe outcomes and secondary diseases.
- Experts recommend **2 vaccinations** after the age of **9 months**. In any case, children should be vaccinated before joining a childcare facility (day nursery, kindergarten).
- The vaccination is **free of charge** for **all age groups** at public vaccination centres. It is highly effective and usually very well tolerated.

- **Check your vaccination status!**
- After two MMR jabs (confirmed in writing), proof of a sufficient quantity of protective antibodies in the blood, or following a measles infection confirmed by a laboratory test, you may expect to be adequately protected.
- You can and should get any missing vaccinations **at any age as quickly as possible**.
- In case of contact with a measles patient, any person who is not demonstrably protected against measles may be excluded from public and communal facilities, such as kindergarten, school, day care centre, by the public health authority for up to 21 days.

What many people don't know:

Measles weaken the body's defences massively, so that a higher risk for other life-threatening infectious diseases may exist for several years.



Ask your doctor or your pharmacist about recommended vaccinations. Information on the free MMR vaccination is available on impfen.gv.at/masern.



All information, vaccination recommendations and vaccination offers on impfen.gv.at.

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