



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



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Dear Marin County Parents,

With summer travel approaching, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all unvaccinated persons who are traveling to areas where measles or polio is circulating to receive proper vaccination prior to leaving. Marin County has a concerning combination of frequent international travelers and low vaccination rates.

Although measles elimination was declared in the U.S. in 2000, importations of measles is causing new outbreaks in communities with low vaccination rates. Measles activity continues to increase. Of 60 confirmed cases in California so far this year, most were unvaccinated travelers or had contact to someone who had traveled.

Also, after decades of progress toward eradication, polio incidence is increasing. Currently, ten countries have active transmission of polio that could spread to other countries through international travel. Unvaccinated students who travel internationally and attend schools with low vaccination rates could initiate outbreaks in these vulnerable Marin communities.

Please enjoy your summer break, and please make it as safe as possible for yourselves and your community.

Recommended travel health measures, including new vaccination recommendations, can be found here: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/>

In Health,

Matt Willis, MD, MPH
Marin County Public Health Officer