

12 September, 2017

Measles Alert – Sutherland Shire

South Eastern Sydney Local Health District is urging people who have been in the Sutherland Shire between 5 September and 11 September to be aware of the symptoms of measles after a person that was infectious with measles visited the following areas on multiple occasions during that period.

- Miranda Westfield, 5 September
- The train from Cronulla to Miranda, about 4-4.30pm on 5 September
- Din Tai Fung restaurant, Miranda, dinner on 5 September
- The train from Cronulla to Sutherland, about 5.30-6pm on 6 September
- Kuroneko Ramen Noodle Bar, Sutherland, dinner on 8 September
- Sutherland Hospital, in or passing through the Emergency Department from 9.30am on Sunday 10 September to 2am on Monday 11 September, and 11am to 7pm on Monday 11 September.

Measles is highly infectious. Symptoms include fever, sore eyes and a cough followed a few days later by a non-itchy rash, when the fever is still present. Measles can have serious complications, particularly for young children or people with weakened immune systems.

Older infants, children and adults born after 1965 who do not have records of receiving two doses of MMR vaccine, or evidence of previous measles infection, are susceptible to measles.

Professor Mark Ferson, Public Health Director, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District, said that anyone over 12 months of age who has not received one dose of MMR and anyone over 18 months who has not received two doses of measles containing vaccine and may have been in the above specific areas on 10 or 11 September, is urged to attend their general practitioner for vaccination **within 72 hours** of their presence in these areas.

“The measles virus is highly contagious and is spread through the air by someone who is unwell with the disease.

“People with measles symptoms should stay home from school or work and not go out in public.

“We recommend medical attention be sought, but if you or your child shows these symptoms you should call the doctor’s surgery **before** you go in so they can make arrangements to see you without the risk of you spreading the virus to other people,” Professor Ferson said.

Measles is very common in some countries. People who travel overseas should discuss with their doctor before they travel whether they need the measles vaccination.

For more information visit:

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/Measles_Factsheet.aspx.