

Recent Outbreaks of Vaccine Preventable Diseases:

Measles Outbreak Spreads to 15 States, July 2010:

At least 127 people in 15 states have come down with the measles, the biggest outbreak in the United States in more than 10 years.

Cases started springing up in May 2010, when more than 70 people in a dozen states became ill. According to federal health officials, most of the victims were not vaccinated against the highly contagious virus.

Measles Outbreak in San Diego, 2008:

A single case of measles from a 7-year-old child returning from Switzerland sparked an outbreak that exposed 839 people and sickened 11 other children. All 12 children were not vaccinated, 3 of which were too young to get vaccinated.

Polio Outbreak in Tajikistan (small country in Europe), 2010:

As of October 14, 2010, the Tajikistan Ministry of Health has reported 706 cases of acute flaccid paralysis. The number of cases of paralysis per week has fallen substantially since four immunization campaigns were conducted in May and June, after the onset of the outbreak. Of these cases, 458 have been laboratory-confirmed as polio. Of the confirmed polio cases, 298 are in children under 5 years of age. Twenty-six deaths have been reported among people with confirmed polio. Russia has reported 14 polio cases linked to travelers to Tajikistan.

Measles Outbreak in Ireland, 2000:

Routine use of the MMR vaccine fell because of vaccine safety fears, leading to 1407 cases and 111 hospital admissions. 13 of the children were so sick that they had to be admitted to the intensive care unit, seven were on mechanical ventilators to help them breathe, and three children died.

Measles Outbreaks in England, 2006 & 2007:

Rates of measles in England, up to 740 in 2006 and 971 in 2007 after decreased use of the MMR vaccine because of worries over its link to autism.

Measles outbreak in the Netherlands, 1999 to 2000:

Among a mostly unvaccinated community, which ended with 3,292 cases of measles, 72 hospitalizations, and 3 deaths.

Rubella Outbreak in Nebraska, 1999:

125 cases reported during this outbreak. 95 occurred in Nebraska, and 30 in neighboring Iowa. At least 7 pregnant women were infected.

*** Patient handouts created by Kapa'a Pediatrics are intended to give parents the most common and pertinent facts about a certain issue. If there is ever any concern that your child was given an incorrect diagnosis or is not following the usual expected course for an illness please call us to speak with a physician. (808) 634-8011***