Fever, Rash, and Travel?...... Consider Measles

A measles outbreak is occurring in the Vancouver, WA and Portland, OR areas, and parts of New York City and State. Measles is highly contagious and can cause severe illness and death. Please protect patients, visitors, and staff!



Watch for measles symptoms

Suspect measles in patients with:

- fever and rash
- history in prior 3 weeks
 - -- travel to locales experiencing a measles outbreak
 - -- international travel
 - -- contact with international visitors

Note: A history of 2 doses of MMR vaccine does not exclude a measles diagnosis.

Prodrome

- mild to moderate fever
- cough
- coryza (runny nose)
- conjunctivitis

Rash onset

- Fever spikes, often as high as 104° F to 105° F
- Red, maculopapular rash that may become confluent—typically starts at hairline, then face, then spreads rapidly down body
- Koplik's spots (tiny blue/white spots on the bright red background of the buccal mucosa) may be present





Act immediately if you suspect measles!

- Start airborne infection control precautions immediately. Mask and isolate patient (negative pressure room, if available).
- Permit only staff immune to measles to be near the patient.
- Notify your local public health district immediately, while the patient is present, to discuss measles testing.
- Safeguard other facilities: call and assure airborne infection control precautions before referring patients.
- Do not use any regular exam room for at least 2 hours after a suspected measles patient has left the room.

See https://www.cdc.gov/measles/hcp/index.html for more information