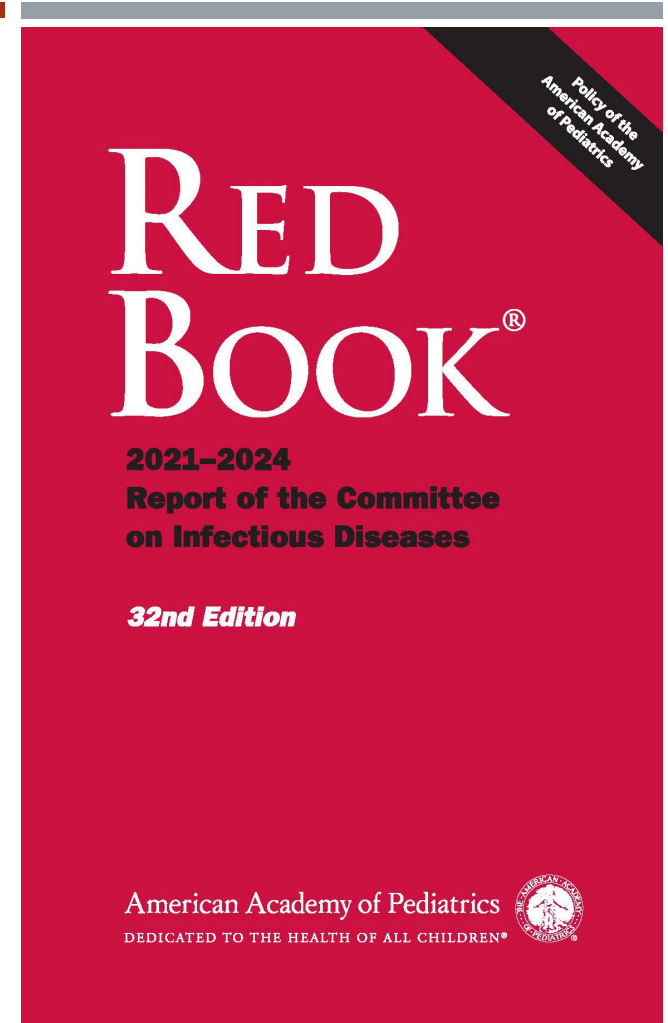


# IDENTIFYING MEASLES IN THE PEDIATRIC SETTING

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**Chair, Committee on Infectious Diseases**  
**American Academy of Pediatrics**

*Disclosure: no relevant financial relationships to disclose*



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# OBJECTIVES OF PRESENTATION

By the end of the presentation, learners will be able to:



Explain the clinical features  
of measles



Discuss the incubation and  
infection periods for measles



Assess the risk of exposure  
for those reporting measles  
symptoms



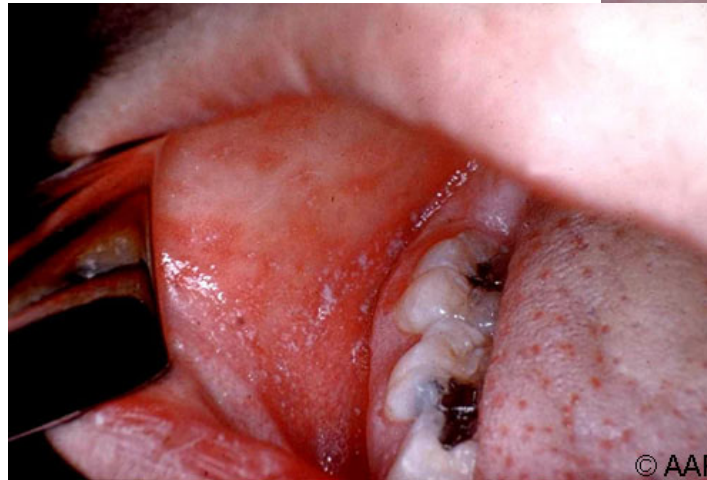
# INITIAL MEASLES SIGNS

Appear 8-12 days  
after contact with  
virus and  
typically include:

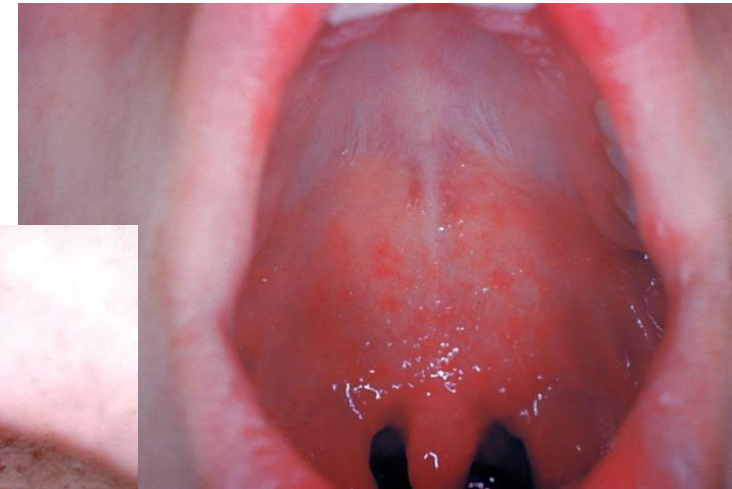
- High fever
- Cough
- Coryza
- Conjunctivitis

# KOPLIK SPOTS

- May appear inside the mouth during prodromal period
- Small, red, irregularly shaped spots with blue-white centers found on the mucosal surface of the oral cavity



Credit: Red Book Online Visual Library



Credit: CDC Public Health Image Library

# MACULOPAPULAR RASH

- 2-4 days after symptoms begin
- Begins at hairline, spreads downward, to face, neck and trunk
- Rash appears red on light complexions; may be harder to see or appear purple or darker than surrounding skin on dark complexions



Credit: CDC Public Health Image Library



Credit: Red Book Online Visual Library



Credit: CDC Public Health Image Library

# MACULOPAPULAR RASH

- Usually begins as flat red spots; small raised bumps may also appear on top of the flat red spots
- Spots may become joined together as they spread
- Fever should be present when rash appears and may spike to over 104° F



Credit: CDC Public Health Image Library

# DISEASE COURSE



Incubation period is typically 8-12 days from exposure to the virus until the first signs and symptoms appear



A rash follows the prodromal symptoms 2-4 days later and usually lasts 5-6 days



Patient is considered contagious from 4 days before to 4 days after the rash appears





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## ASSESS RISK

Measles virus is transmitted by **droplet** and **airborne** spread

For those reporting measles symptoms, consider these **risk factors**:



Measles cases  
present in the  
community



Patient spent time out of  
the country in the 21 days  
before symptom onset



Patient has never  
received the MMR  
vaccine



# AAP RESOURCES

- Red Book Measles Chapter:  
<https://publications.aap.org/redbook>
- Immunization Tools & Resources:  
<https://www.aap.org/immunization>
- Project Firstline Infection Prevention & Control:  
<https://www.aap.org/projectfirstline>
- Healthy Children (for parents):  
<https://www.healthychildren.org/measles>



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## CONCLUSION

# Think measles!

Consider measles in any patient presenting with a febrile rash illness, especially if unvaccinated for measles or traveled internationally in the last 21 days