

Why measles vaccines still matter today (Broadcast)

INTRO:

FOR MANY ADULTS... MEASLES WAS ONCE CONSIDERED A NORMAL PART OF CHILDHOOD. BEFORE VACCINES – NEARLY EVERY CHILD IN THE UNITED STATES CAUGHT THE VIRUS.

TODAY – HOWEVER – PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS EMPHASIZE THAT WHILE NATURAL IMMUNITY DOES OCCUR AFTER INFECTION... THE RISKS OF MEASLES ARE FAR TOO HIGH... WHEN COMPARED TO THE PROTECTION OFFERED BY THE MEASLES... MUMPS AND RUBELLA VACCINE. OR M-M-R.

TAKE VO

EARLY 2025 DATS SHOW RISING CASES IN THE U.S. – A REMINDER THAT MEASLES STILL SPREADS QUICKLY WHEREVER VACCINATION RATES DIP. MEASLES IS HIGHLY INFECTIVE... AND HAS POTENTION LONG-TERM COMPLICATIONS IN OUR KIDS... SAYS DR. DOUG KASPER... INFECTIOUS DISEASE SPECIALIST WITH OSF HEALTHCARE. THE M-M-R VACCINE REMAINS PART OF THE CHILDHOOD VACCINATION SCHEDULE... AND MEASLES IS ONE OF THE MAJOR ILLNESSES TO BE AVOIDED. THAT’S WHY THE M-M-R VACCINE IS CRUCIAL... HE SAYS.

TAKE SOT | DR. DOUG KASPER | INFECTIOUS DISEASE SPECIALIST | OSF HEALTHCARE

“Natural immunity is wonderful. It's part of the evolution of the human body that has taken all our exposures and creates a memory for them, so that we can protect ourselves in the future. Vaccines augment (improve) that. There are some infections that an individual doesn't have to go through, or are so severe to go through, that receiving a vaccine is more valuable,” says [Doug Kasper, MD, infectious disease specialist with OSF HealthCare.](#)

VO TAG

M-M-R VACCINATION RATES NEED TO REMAIN EXTREMELY HIGH... TYPICALLY ABOVE 95-PERCENT... TO PREVENT OUTBREAKS. CERTAIN AREAS ACROSS THE AMERICAS HAVE DIPPED BELOW THAT... CAUSING CONCERN IN PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS. THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN WARNED BY THE PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION THAT THE COUNTRY MAY LOSE ITS MEASLES ELIMINATION STATUS.