

Friday March 8th 2019

New guidelines regarding vaccination for measles in the East of Iceland and in the Capital area

Due to increased number of cases of measles in Iceland it has been decided to offer vaccination for measles in the East and Capital area as a precautionary measure. A sample from one more suspected case of measles in the East is being processed and will be confirmed later today. This particular individual was in contact with an infected individual on February 15th in Egilsstaðir.

The Chief Epidemiologist of Iceland, the Regional Epidemiologist of East Iceland, the Healthcare Centres of the Capital Area, and Landspítali – The National University Hospital of Iceland decided, during a meeting this morning, to expand the group that should be vaccinated and that the following groups should be prioritized:

1. All unvaccinated individuals born from January 1st 1970 – September 1st 2018 (6 months – 49 years old).
2. All individuals that have been exposed to measles and individuals they are in contact with on a daily basis.

These individuals are encouraged to get vaccinated as soon as possible, starting today.

Vaccinations will be offered today and this weekend in the East and in the Capital area for these groups of people and further information on location can be found on the web side of the [Health care Centre of East Iceland](#) and the [Healthcare Centres of the Capital Area](#)

Individuals that have been vaccinated or have history of measles do not need a vaccination. Individuals that have been vaccinated once are not prioritized now. They will be able to be vaccinated later. It is not beneficial to vaccinate children below 6 months of age.

The online chat at [Heilsuvera](#) can be used to get information. Information can be found on the web sides of the [Directorate of Health](#) and [Healthcare Centres of the Capital Area](#).

The information hotline **1700** is also open.

The Chief Epidemiologist has informed all regional Epidemiologists around Iceland about the situation and they are prepared to take action if cases of measles are found in other parts of the country.

Chief Epidemiologist of Iceland