



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Immunisation Department
Donegal PCCC HQ,
St. Joseph's Hospital,
Stranorlar,
Lifford,
Co. Donegal
☎ (074) 9191757/758/759
📠 (074) 9189131

15th June 2017

Re: Measles Outbreak in Europe.

Dear Principal,

We in the Donegal Immunisation department are advised of a significant ongoing Europe wide outbreak of Measles with over 6,000 cases reported since the beginning of 2017 in 30 different European countries. There have been measles related deaths. In Ireland in 2016 there was an outbreak of measles associated with travel into Ireland.

Measles is highly infectious viral illness, and although commonest in younger children, it can affect anyone at any age. Where complications develop, these can be very severe or even fatal.

We are asking your assistance in improving awareness among parents of this outbreak. This is particularly, but not exclusively in relation to families who may be travelling abroad. We have devised the brief message below and would prefer if the exact wording could remain the same in so far as possible. If you feel happy to issue this information via school newsletter or website to the parents of your students we would be very grateful. We understand this is a very busy time of year in schools.

The HSE immunisation department advises all parents to be aware of the ongoing measles outbreak throughout Europe this summer. Vaccination is the only way to protect your family against Measles. If you are unsure that you and your family are protected please contact your GP or the local Immunisation office at 074-9191757/758/759.

We are grateful for your assistance in this regard.

Many thanks,

Yours sincerely,

Pp: Bernie McNulty

Dr C Duffy,
Senior Medical Officer.
MCRN 24005

Bernie McNulty,
Asst Director of PHN specific to Immunisation.
PIN 55364