



Grey Bruce Public Health notified of local, travel-related measles case

- GBPH sent a Healthcare Provider Alert on Friday, Nov. 1, 2024, after receiving confirmation of a local, travel-related case of measles in an unvaccinated adult.
- The case resides in the Municipality of South Bruce and is affiliated with an underimmunized community.
- Contact tracing and notification is underway, along with planning for and encouraging vaccination in the community.
- Healthcare providers are encouraged to maintain awareness of the potential for local contacts and/or cases of measles, and should consider measles in patients presenting with [compatible signs and symptoms](#), especially if they are part of an undervaccinated community.
- Cases and contacts of measles receive investigation through Public Health and should be reported as soon as possible. During regular office hours, suspected cases and contacts can be reported to the Infectious Diseases Team (phone: 519-376-9420 ext. 6, fax: 519-376-4152). After hours, please report via our on-call system (phone: 519-376-5420).

Information on Ontario's Infant & High-Risk Children RSV Prevention Program

- Two products have been approved by the Ministry of Health for use in 2024-25:
 - **Beyfortus** (Nirsevimab) – Provides protection against RSV for a minimum of 5 months. **ALL babies born in 2024 are eligible.** Babies 12-24 months that meet “high-risk” criteria are also eligible to receive Beyfortus when entering their second RSV season. For full eligibility criteria, see: [MOH Guidance Document](#).
 - **Abrysvo** – For pregnant individuals between 32-36 weeks gestation during RSV season (Nov-April). Abrysvo is not the recommended product of choice and **should ONLY be given on case-by-case basis to mothers who indicate they don't intend to offer Beyfortus to their child.**
- The preference is to offer Beyfortus to infants. Infants will get better protection from receiving the passive antibodies directly from Beyfortus themselves versus getting antibodies from mother. **Please limit Abrysvo vaccine orders for this purpose.** For healthy infants whose parent received Abrysvo during pregnancy, Beyfortus is not expected to provide added benefit.
- Please call the nurse on-call in the VPD Program if you have any questions about the information provided. Alternatively you can email vpd@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca
- Grey Bruce Public Health has developed [a letter that PCPs can use to notify families of infants about the publicly funded RSV products](#).

COVID-19 and Flu Vaccines now available for general public

- Auto-shipments of influenza vaccine have been delivered to Primary Care Providers.
- For COVID-19 vaccine or additional flu vaccine, please fax orders to 519-376-7782.
- Vaccine order forms are available on [Grey Bruce Public Health's website](#).
- Public Health Ontario has released a [Focus On: Vaccines for the 2024-25 Influenza Season](#) document, which provides an overview of the publicly-funded influenza vaccines available in Ontario as part of the Universal Influenza Immunization Program for the 2024-25 influenza season.

Duty to Report

- Healthcare practitioners have a duty, under the Health Protection and Promotion Act, to report Diseases of Public Health Significance to their Public Health Unit.
- Reports of Diseases of Public Health Significance should be faxed as soon as possible to 519-376-4152.
- Diseases marked with an asterick should also be reported verbally, as soon as possible to 519-376-9420 ext. 6 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) or 519-376-5420 (after hours or on holidays).
- Download a PDF version of the list: [Reportable Diseases of Public Health Significance](#).
- Please note: Public Health does not receive negative lab results for clients we did not test. The ordering healthcare provider should plan to provide a report of negative lab results if the patient is expecting notification of such.

November is Fall Prevention Month

- [A Step Ahead to Fall Prevention in Older Adults](#) is an e-learning module for PCPs who are interested in learning more about age-related changes, fall risk factors, and incorporating fall prevention strategies when working with older adults.
- UPDATED [The Staying on Your Feet Guide](#) is a locally created document that PCPs and older adults can use to help identify fall risks, learn how to prevent falls, and find resources.
- [GBPH has developed a Winter Walking poster](#). For copies, call 519-376-9420.
- NEW [Bone Fit Training Workshops](#) for Rehabilitation Practitioners & Exercise Professionals. Learn how to incorporate exercise recommendations from the New 2023 Guideline on Managing Osteoporosis, conduct safe exercise preparedness screening for clients with low bone mass & more!
 - Level 1 - Foundations ONLINE - \$300 (pre-requisite to Level II)
 - Level II - Advanced IN PERSON - \$300 Planning workshop for Spring 2025 in Owen Sound
 - Contact: jporteous@osteoporosis.ca or 519-270-7057 for more information.

Resources for Primary Care Professionals

- **Additional measles resources:**
 - [Measles Information for Health Care Providers – Public Health Ontario \(Sept. 2024\)](#)
 - [Measles: Post-exposure Prophylaxis for Contacts – Public Health Ontario \(Sept. 2024\)](#)
 - [Measles IPAC Checklist for Clinics – Public Health Ontario \(September 2024\)](#)

Educational Opportunities for Primary Care Professionals

- [HIV Education Series for Primary Care Clinicians](#), funded by Ontario HIV Treatment Network. *Are you a primary care physician/nurse practitioner with limited experience in managing HIV? Join the HIV Education and Learning series to strengthen your ability to assess, diagnose, and manage patients at risk or living with HIV.*
 - Session 1: HIV and STI Risk (Nov. 8, noon)
 - Session 2: HIV Prevention (PrEP & PEP) (Nov. 15, noon)
 - Session 3: HIV Testing & Initial Management (Nov. 22, noon)
 - Session 4: HIV in Special Populations (Focus on Women) (Nov. 29, noon)

Grey Bruce Public Health Media Releases: October 2024

- Oct. 11, 2024 - [Opioid Alert issued following reports of 3 suspected drug poisonings, including one fatality, over 3 days](#)
- Oct. 17, 2024 - [GBPH releases 2024 report on food affordability](#)
- Oct. 18, 2024 - [GBPH encourages residents to get latest COVID-19 and flu vaccines to safeguard health this fall](#)
- Oct. 21, 2024 - [Federal, provincial programs available to help seniors with cost of dental care](#)
- Oct. 31, 2024 - [GBPH issues Opioid Alert in response to suspected fatal drug poisoning](#)