

From: Hill, Jeffrey

Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2025 1:04 PM

To: Funderburk, Mark

Cc: Tijerina, Amanda

; Hrnecirik, Bobbye

Ragain, Mike

Duske, Kristi

; Economidis, Michael

Wischkaemper, Lois

Subject: Resource Needs from State and Federal Government

All:

I spoke with Katherin Wells to ensure a consistent message and request of state and federal agencies. Our ask is as follows:

1. Set up local lab to conduct measles testing to improve result turnaround times. Turnaround times matter because the treatment and exposure tracing is time dependent:
 - a. A person exposed can be given a vaccine within 3 days of exposure which helps reduce the severity of illness,
 - b. After 3 days of exposure and before the 7th day of exposure, a person testing positive for measles can receive immunoglobulin therapy to reduce severity of the illness.
2. Resources to perform public health follow-up. When a person tests positive, we try to find all the people they may have exposed to let them know of the exposure, review their immunity status, and if unvaccinated, immunocompromised or pregnant encourage post exposure treatment. There is urgency in finding an exposed person within 3 days of exposure so they can be given isolation guidance and offered vaccine/immunoglobulin. Each hospital is doing this tracing themselves during the height of flu and respiratory season. Local hospitals are at capacity and having difficulty finding enough staff to handle this added workload. Hospitals are covering the expense of these extra staff, paying premium pay in most situations. There are no reimbursement opportunities for this work.
3. Resources to help cover the cost of vaccines and immunoglobulin treatments. Hospitals are covering the costs of these therapies. IG is given intramuscular in kids under 12 months of age and there is a shortage of this