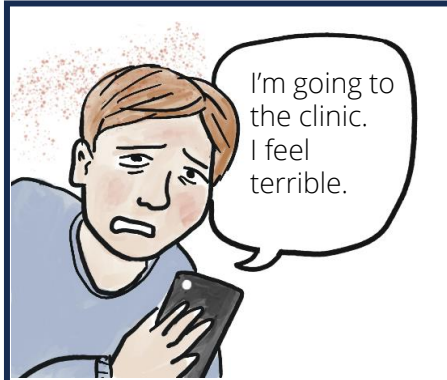


How Contagious is Measles?



Joe lives in Seattle. He recently traveled overseas where he was exposed to measles. He wasn't vaccinated for measles.



Joe has a fever and feels sick. He doesn't know he has measles.



Joe doesn't have a rash yet but he's already very contagious. He releases virus in the air when he breathes out, talks, coughs or sneezes.



Joe leaves the waiting room.



The virus hangs in the air, even after Joe leaves. It can stay in the air for UP TO 2 HOURS. Anyone who passes through the waiting room might breathe it in.



What happens if none of these people got the MMR vaccine and none ever had measles?

Up to 9 out of 10 would get measles.



But if they were all vaccinated?

Most likely NO ONE would get measles.

The measles vaccine (MMR) provides very strong protection. **2 doses are about 97% effective in preventing infection.**

You don't need additional boosters--the protection from those doses lasts a lifetime!

kingcounty.gov/measles

