

TO: NEW UCLA HOUSE STAFF

RE: MEASLES, MUMPS AND RUBELLA (MMR) VACCINATION AND REVACCINATION

There have been recurrent epidemics of measles in Los Angeles County with considerable morbidity and mortality. These epidemics have been the result of insufficient percentage of primary immunizations in preschool age children and disease in adults due to vaccine failure and lack of immunization for one reason or another.

Over the last few years, several house officers contracted and were hospitalized with measles. Since vaccination doesn't result in 100% seroconversion, the ACIP recommends a 2-dose immunization schedule for children and the revaccination of health care workers who have previously had one dose of vaccine. In addition, there is evidence that a substantial number of adults (house officers) are susceptible to mumps and rubella. Therefore, the revaccination or primary immunization of house officers should be done with MMR rather than just measles vaccine. All hospital staff should be immunized with 2-doses of MMR vaccine at least 28 days apart or have documented serologic evidence of protection from each of the three viruses. Immunization should be carried out in all except those with legitimate contraindications. We encourage you to be vaccinated before you begin clinical activities. The vaccine is provided at no cost to all UCLA house staff.

MMR VACCINE INFORMATION

Contraindications:

- * **pregnancy**
- * Allergic reaction to neomycin, **eggs**
- * Any febrile, respiratory illness
- * Active tuberculosis
- * Immunosuppressive therapy or individuals with lymphoproliferative disorders, leukemia or immunodeficiency syndromes.

Adverse reactions: May include malaise, sore throat, headache, fever, rash, nausea and vomiting. Local reactions may include erythema, induration, tenderness and local lymphadenopathy. Allergic reactions may include wheal and flare of the injection site, generalized urticaria, polyneuritis, arthralgias and arthritis.