Thank you for letting (insert healthcare facility name) participate in your care. We strive to make your visit as safe and comfortable as we can. This letter is to let you know that during your recent visit, you may have been in the same area as a patient who has tested positive for measles.

 **Facts About Measles:**
Measles is a highly contagious virus that spreads easily from person-to-person. Measles can be serious, especially for young children. Measles spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes the virus into the air and someone inhales or touches it. If exposed to a person with measles, 90% of people close to that person who are not immune to measles will get the disease. People who have measles can spread the virus to others from 4 days before the rash appears to 4 days after the rash appears. The virus can live on infected surfaces and in the air for up to 2 hours.

There is a vaccine to prevent measles—the Measles Mumps Rubella (MMR) vaccine. This vaccine is 97% effective against measles. The vaccine for measles has been around for a long time, since 1963. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends all children get 2 doses of MMR vaccine. The first dose should be given at ages 12 through 15 months and the second dose should be given between 4-6 years of age. Children can receive the second dose earlier if it is at least 28 days after the first dose.

**What (insert healthcare facility name) Is Doing:**
We are in the process of notifying all patients, families and staff who may have been exposed to ensure they are aware of the potential exposure and what they may need to do.

**What You Can Do:**

* If you do not know if you are up to date with MMR, please contact your primary care provider.
* Watch for symptoms for a total of 21 days.
* Measles symptoms appear 7 to 14 days after contact with the virus. Symptoms typically include high fever, cough, runny nose, and watery eyes.
* Measles rash appears 3 to 5 days after the first symptoms. The measles rash begins as flat red spots on the face at the hairline and spreads downward. Small, raised bumps can also appear on top of the flat red spots. As the rash spreads, the clusters flow into each other to form large red, flat blotches.
* If you or a member of your family have symptoms of measles:
* Stay at home. Avoid contact with others.
* Call your healthcare provider right away. Let them know of your potential exposure and symptoms. They will tell you what to do next.
* If you do not have a health care provider, please contactyour local health department
* If you are experiencing life-threatening symptoms, such as trouble breathing, go to the Emergency Department. Please notify a staff member that you were exposed to measles.

**If you have any questions, please call your primary healthcare provider. We are sorry for any inconvenience or stress this may cause you and your family.**