Childhood Illnesses in Georgia

ALARMING STATISTICS

More than 16% of 2-year-olds in Georgia lacked the recommended immunizations in 2017.[1]

When parents choose not to vaccinate their children, they are putting children at risk for life-threatening diseases that were once rare or completely eradicated.

PERTUSSIS

Known for uncontrollable, violent coughing which makes it difficult to breathe

Highly contagious and sometimes deadly for infants

Many deaths are infants under 3 months[4]

134 cases of pertussis in Georgia in 2018[2]

1980s saw a dramatic increase in the number of diagnosed pertussis cases

48,277 cases of pertussis in nationwide outbreak in 2012[3]

MEASLES

Known for a rash of small, raised red spots that begins on the face and spreads down the body

Highly contagious

Kills 100,000+ people every year[8]

10 states have confirmed outbreaks of measles, including Georgia already in 2019[6]

2000 the year measles was declared eradicated[5]

20% of infected individuals show no symptoms, but can infect others[9]

MUMPS

Known for swelling in the salivary glands

Outbreaks typically occur in close-contact settings, such as schools or college campuses

Complications can include hearing loss

125 confirmed cases in Georgia in 2018, up from 6 cases annually between 2007 and 2016[7]

2008 the year measles cases were diagnosed in unvaccinated areas

99% drop in cases of mumps since the introduction of the vaccine in 1967[9]

Sources: https://tinyurl.com/VoicesVaccineReferences

Rev. 2/2019