# **Any Lab Test Now**

## **MEASLES TITER TEST**

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Measles, also called Rubeola, is a highly contagious virus that can be very serious if contracted by children. The infection causes a fever, cough, runny nose, conjunctivitis, and a rash that begins on the face and spreads to the rest of the body. In very young children, measles can lead to pneumonia as the virus spreads to the lungs. In older children the virus could lead to pneumonia, croup, diarrhea or swelling of the brain (encephalitis) which could cause seizures and brain damage.

A measles infection in pregnant women can be very serious for the unborn child. The virus can be passed from the mother to the baby and could cause premature birth or spontaneous abortions. While this is rare, due to the increase in early childhood vaccination, it is important to know whether you are immune to the virus before becoming pregnant.

### WHY DO I NEED THIS TEST?

When someone is exposed to the Measles virus, either through a vaccination or exposure to the virus and an infection, the body develops antibodies to the virus. This test is performed to determine immunity to measles (Rubeola). A measles antibodies test can detect a recent or past infection, and it can determine whether a person has received the vaccine or never been exposed to the virus. Pregnant women should have a Measles Titer to ensure that they are immune to protect their unborn child from infection.

### **HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO GET MY LAB TEST RESULTS?**

Results are typically available in 3 to 5 business days.

### AM I REQUIRED TO FAST FOR THIS LAB TEST?

No. You do not need to fast for this test.

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Ekan Essien, MD, MPH, a native Georgian, received his BA from Duke University. Dr. Essien continued his education at Florida A&M University where he received his Masters of Public Health in Epidemiology; received his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee; and obtained training in general and trauma surgery at Grady Memorial Hospital at Morehouse School of Medicine. He is a candidate in the post graduate fellowship in anti-aging and regenerative medicine from the American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine.