



At Umdukhun Hospital, an International Medical Corps staff member conducts an awareness-raising session on the outbreak of measles.

Sudan's conflict, which began in April 2023, has created one of the world's worst humanitarian crises. According to the United Nations, more than 11.7 million people have been displaced, including 4.2 million who have fled to neighboring countries.

Central Darfur state is experiencing an active measles outbreak that was officially confirmed by the state Ministry of Health in October following laboratory verification by the National Public Health Laboratory. The outbreak in Umdukhun locality began in late December and continues to spread, driven by low routine-immunization coverage, widespread population displacement, overcrowded living conditions and limited access to preventive health services.

As of January 14, the state Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) reports 1,285 cumulative measles cases across Central Darfur. Of these, 1,263 cases have recovered and 16 remain in isolation. Six deaths have been recorded, all among children under 5.

International Medical Corps works in Umdukhun locality, which remains one of the affected areas reporting ongoing transmission. As of January 19, surveillance data from Umdukhun Hospital reported 69 suspected cases of measles cases, with 12 suspected cases reported in the previous 24 hours. No measles-related deaths have been recorded in the locality. 48 patients have recovered, and 21 cases remain under treatment. Most cases are among children under 5, particularly infants and children aged 1 to 4 years, with many reported as unvaccinated or partially vaccinated.

## International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps is actively supporting the measles outbreak response in Umdukhun locality and surrounding areas, working closely with the state Ministry of Health. We are providing clinical management for suspected measles cases at Umdukhun Hospital, ensuring timely diagnosis, treatment, referral and follow-up care.

To strengthen early detection and surveillance, our teams have disseminated standard measles case definitions to health facilities and activated community-based case finding through community health volunteers and EPI focal persons. We

## FAST FACTS

- There are 1,286 reported measles cases in Central Darfur. Of these, 1,263 cases have recovered and 16 people are in isolation.
- There were six deaths recorded, all of which were children under 5.

## OUR FOOTPRINT

- Since 2004, International Medical Corps has been providing health, nutrition, protection, mental health and psychosocial support, and water, sanitation and hygiene services in Sudan.

## OUR RESPONSE

- International Medical Corps has a longstanding operational presence in Central Darfur, delivering lifesaving health services and supporting vaccinations, disease surveillance and outbreak response, working closely with the state Ministry of Health.
- We are supporting the treatment of measles at Umdukhun Hospital and strengthening surveillance through community-based case finding.
- We support primary and secondary care health services and community-level interventions targeting vulnerable and displaced populations.
- International Medical Corps will support the state Ministry of Health-led measles-rubella campaign targeting some 810,000 children across Central Darfur, providing community mobilization, coordination and operational engagement services.

are conducting community-engagement activities that include daily health education and awareness sessions targeting caregivers and community leaders, to promote early health-seeking behavior and preventive practices.

We are participating in coordination meetings with the state Ministry of Health and EPI staff, as well as humanitarian partners, to align response actions and maximize coverage. We are also supporting the mapping of affected villages and identification of transmission hotspots, to guide targeted interventions.

To interrupt transmission and prevent further measles-related morbidity and mortality, a statewide measles-rubella vaccination campaign will be implemented from January 25 to 26 under the leadership of the State Ministry of Health, with support from UNICEF and partners. The campaign will target some 810,000 children aged 9 months to 15 years across all localities in Central Darfur state. International Medical Corps will support the campaign by providing community mobilization, coordination and operational engagement services.