



Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society of the Philippines
Statement of Support
For the Department of Health's "***Ligtas Tigdas***"
Measles-Rubella Supplemental Immunization Activity
June 25, 2026

The Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society of the Philippines (PIDSP) expresses its strong support for the Department of Health's "Ligtas Tigdas" Measles-Rubella Supplemental Immunization Activity (MR-SIA) campaign. We call upon all healthcare providers, parents and caregivers to ensure that every eligible child receives the measles-rubella vaccine.

The Urgency of This Moment

The Philippines is facing a serious and worsening measles situation. In the first half of 2026, some 2,021 cases of measles and rubella cases were recorded. Cases have increased by 45% in the first quarter of the year alone. The Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) has reported the highest burden, followed by SOCKSARGEN, and the National Capital Region. Most alarming is that seven out of ten cases occurred in completely unvaccinated children. With national measles-rubella vaccination coverage at approximately 66 percent, over 800,000 children remain unprotected and vulnerable to this highly contagious and potentially fatal disease.

Our Position

As pediatricians dedicated to child health, we affirm that:

1. **Measles is preventable.** The measles-rubella vaccine is safe, effective, and the single most important tool we have to stop outbreaks and save lives.
2. **Vaccination protects the most vulnerable.** Infants too young to be vaccinated depend on community-wide immunity. Every unvaccinated child represents a gap in the shield that protects our youngest and most fragile. One case of measles can potentially infect 12 to 18 other people.
3. **The "Ligtas Tigdas" campaign receives our full support.** We commend the DOH for mobilizing resources to reach children aged 6 to 59 months through barangay health centers and designated vaccination sites.
4. **Misinformation costs lives.** We urge the public to rely on credible sources of health information and to consult their physicians regarding any concerns about vaccination.

Our Commitment

The PIDSP pledges to support the DOH's immunization efforts through:

- Active participation of our members in vaccination drives and public education
- Collaboration with regional and local health authorities to strengthen routine immunization
- Advocacy for sustained investment in childhood vaccination programs

No child should suffer or die from a disease we can prevent with a highly effective vaccine. We call on every Filipino family to join this campaign. Bring your children to the nearest health center or MR-SIA designated vaccination center. Protect them. Protect your community. Together, we can make measles a disease of the past.