

# Measles shots send six to hospital

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Metcalfe. "Adrenaline is harmless," she said. "In keeping with procedure, the local health department will carry out a followup to make sure everyone is fine," added Metcalfe. "We will submit a report to the Ministry," she added.

Of the 240 clinics, 76 have been carried out so far. "We are very pleased with the progress," said Metcalfe. "The schools have been supportive and the parents have been very supportive."

The province-wide measles campaign was launched after health officials recorded a rise in the number of measles cases in Ontario.

Ontario has had more cases of red measles than anywhere in North America, the Ministry of Health reported.

Red measles can be a very serious disease causing blindness, hearing trouble, brain damage, pneumonia and even death, stressed Metcalfe.

York Region had measles outbreaks in '91 and '92 with 198 and 335 cases respectively.

Due to the nature of red measles, 1996 was projected to be a significant outbreak year for measles in York Region, said Metcalfe. Measles is both a serious and contagious disease. Dr. Karim Kurji, York's associate medical officer of

health, stressed recently. Death occurs in one in every 3,000 reported cases and one in 1,000 cases suffer brain damage, said the doctor. Before an effective vaccine was

available, measles was the leading cause of deafness and hearing impaired children. Worldwide, one million children still die of measles every year, Kurji said.

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