

# IMMUNIZABLE DISEASES

## RUBELLA

Rubella is generally a mild rash illness and asymptomatic infections are common. By preventing rubella disease the devastating sequelae of Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS) is also avoided. CRS is the result of rubella infection during early pregnancy and can result in miscarriage, stillbirth, and anomalies such as congenital cataracts, neurological abnormalities and heart defects. In 1992, three cases of Congenital Rubella Syndrome were reported.

In 1992-1993, 25 cases of rubella were reported in New York State exclusive of New York City (eight cases in 1992 and 17 cases in 1993). In 1993, 22 cases were reported in New York City. No rubella was reported by New York City in 1992.

In 1993, 15 of the 17 cases of rubella occurred in people aged 20 years or older. A small outbreak occurred in a factory in Nassau County among five women who were born outside of the United States. One of these women was in her last trimester of pregnancy. The baby was determined to not be infected with rubella through IgM testing and suffered no congenital malformation at birth.

