

**Supplementary Table S1.** Schematic representation of the fundamental workflow of the MMR ELISA assay protocol.

| Antibodies to be detected  | ANTI- MEASLES  | ANTI- MUMPS   | ANTI- RUBELLA  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Coating antigens, concentrations</b>                                      | Bio-Rad PIP013 Measles virus, Edmonston strain: 2.8 µg/mL  | Bio-Rad PIP014 Mumps virus, Enders strain: 3 µg/mL                | Bio-Rad PIP044 Rubella virus, HPV-77 strain: 0.4 µg/mL                                   |
| <b>Biomolecule immobilization</b>  | ELISA 96-well Maxisorp plates (Nunc) were coated overnight at 4-6 °C with 100 µL/well. Antigens are dissolved in ELISA Coating Buffer (Bio-Rad BUF030).  |   |  |
| <b>Saturation of non-specific binding sites</b>                              | Blocking: ≥ 2 hours, room temperature, using a combination of non-ionic detergents and proteins in 1:2 ratios (e.g. bovine skin gelatine : purely synthetic, PVA-based blocking buffer)  |   |  |
| <b>Sample pre-analytics</b>  | Thawing and subsequent preliminary dilution of samples (at a ratio of 1:50) employing IgM Reducing Assay Diluent (Bio-Rad BUF038), aim to minimize background interference and aid in achieving consistent matrix conditions in challenging serum and plasma samples. Following a 15-minute incubation period (room temperature) and subsequent centrifugation, the resulting supernatant is transferred to microplates, achieving a final dilution of 1:200, utilizing washing buffer as the diluent. |   |  |
| <b>Standard /quality control reagent (S1-S5)</b>                             | 3rd WHO International Standard for Anti-Measles (NIBSC code: 97/648)   | Anti-Mumps Quality Control Reagent Sample 1 (NIBSC code: 15/B664) | Anti-Rubella Immunoglobulin 1st WHO International Standard Human (NIBSC code: RUBI-1-94) |
| <b>Additional in-house controls applied</b>                                  | Negative Control (NC): sample tested negative in a previous run, Positive Control (PC): sample tested positive in a previous run, blank (sample diluent)   |   |  |
| <b>Incubation (for primary, secondary antibodies and substrate solution)</b> | 3 x 17 minutes, 37°C   |   |  |
| <b>Colour detection</b>  | Polyclonal anti-human IgG HRP-conjugated (Dako polyclonal rabbit anti-human IgG or equivalent) + TMB   |   |  |
| <b>Additional reagents</b>   | TWEEN® 20 (also used as temporary blocker and an integral component of the washing solution) and PBS containing Washing Buffer (WB)  |   |  |
| <b>Automation and reading</b>  | Siemens BEP 2000 Advance System, λ = 450/620 nm  |   |  |

**Supplementary Table S2.** Analysis of statistically significant differences (non-overlapping confidence intervals, CI 95%) among adjacent and non-adjacent age cohorts in Hungary and Croatia.

| Base of comparison                        | Non-overlapping confidence intervals between age groups |             |           |
|---|---|-------------|-----------|
| Measles, Hungary, adjacent age groups     | 20-30/30-40   |             |           |
|   | 40-50/50-60   |             |           |
| Measles, Hungary, non-adjacent age groups | 10-20/>70   |             |           |
|   | 20-30/50-60   | 20-30/>70   |           |
|   | 30-40/50-60   | 30-40/60-70 | 30-40/>70 |
|   | 40-50/60-70   | 40-50/>70   |           |
| Measles, Croatia, adjacent age groups     | 10-20/20-30   |             |           |
| Measles, Croatia, non-adjacent age groups | 10-20/40-50   |             |           |
|   | 20-30/50-60   | 20-30/60-70 | 20-30/>70 |
|   | 30-40/50-60   | 30-40/60-70 | 30-40/>70 |
|   | 40-50/60-70   | 40-50/>70   |           |
| Mumps, Hungary, adjacent age groups       |   | N.A.        |           |
| Mumps, Hungary, non-adjacent age groups   | 20-30/50-60   | 20-30/60-70 |           |
|   | 30-40/50-60   | 30-40/60-70 |           |
| Mumps, Croatia, adjacent age groups       |   | N.A.        |           |
| Mumps, Croatia, non-adjacent age groups   |   | N.A.        |           |
| Rubella, Hungary, adjacent age groups     |   | N.A.        |           |
| Rubella, Hungary, non-adjacent age groups |   | N.A.        |           |
| Rubella, Croatia, adjacent age groups     | 40-50/50-60   |             |           |
| Rubella, Croatia, non-adjacent age groups | 30-40/50-60   |             |           |

**Supplementary Table S3.** Clopper-Pearson exact binomial confidence intervals were computed as a statistical method. The absence of overlap in confidence intervals (CI 95%) was interpreted as indicative of a statistically significant difference between the respective age groups.

| Age         | N   | Non-Event | Event | Event Rate | Lower Limit | Upper Limit | Country | Type    |
|-------------|-----|-----------|-------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| 10-20 years | 682 | 52        | 630   | 0.924      | 0.901       | 0.943       | HU      | Measles |
| 20-30 years | 517 | 54        | 463   | 0.896      | 0.866       | 0.921       | HU      | Measles |
| 30-40 years | 313 | 60        | 253   | 0.808      | 0.760       | 0.850       | HU      | Measles |
| 40-50 years | 383 | 49        | 334   | 0.872      | 0.834       | 0.904       | HU      | Measles |
| 50-60 years | 248 | 7         | 241   | 0.972      | 0.943       | 0.989       | HU      | Measles |
| 60-70 years | 257 | 14        | 243   | 0.946      | 0.910       | 0.970       | HU      | Measles |
| ≥ 70 years  | 280 | 7         | 273   | 0.975      | 0.949       | 0.990       | HU      | Measles |
| 10-20 years | 143 | 17        | 126   | 0.881      | 0.817       | 0.929       | CRO     | Measles |
| 20-30 years | 279 | 68        | 211   | 0.756      | 0.702       | 0.806       | CRO     | Measles |
| 30-40 years | 359 | 81        | 278   | 0.774      | 0.728       | 0.817       | CRO     | Measles |
| 40-50 years | 307 | 82        | 225   | 0.733      | 0.680       | 0.782       | CRO     | Measles |
| 50-60 years | 291 | 34        | 257   | 0.883      | 0.841       | 0.918       | CRO     | Measles |
| 60-70 years | 253 | 17        | 236   | 0.933      | 0.895       | 0.960       | CRO     | Measles |
| ≥ 70 years  | 132 | 10        | 122   | 0.924      | 0.865       | 0.963       | CRO     | Measles |
| 10-20 years | 220 | 17        | 203   | 0.923      | 0.879       | 0.954       | HU      | Mumps   |
| 20-30 years | 266 | 34        | 232   | 0.872      | 0.826       | 0.910       | HU      | Mumps   |
| 30-40 years | 159 | 29        | 130   | 0.818      | 0.749       | 0.874       | HU      | Mumps   |
| 40-50 years | 205 | 21        | 184   | 0.898      | 0.848       | 0.936       | HU      | Mumps   |
| 50-60 years | 116 | 4         | 112   | 0.966      | 0.914       | 0.991       | HU      | Mumps   |
| 60-70 years | 122 | 4         | 118   | 0.967      | 0.918       | 0.991       | HU      | Mumps   |
| ≥ 70 years  | 111 | 8         | 103   | 0.928      | 0.863       | 0.968       | HU      | Mumps   |
| 10-20 years | 143 | 20        | 123   | 0.860      | 0.792       | 0.912       | CRO     | Mumps   |
| 20-30 years | 279 | 44        | 235   | 0.842      | 0.794       | 0.883       | CRO     | Mumps   |
| 30-40 years | 359 | 74        | 285   | 0.794      | 0.748       | 0.835       | CRO     | Mumps   |
| 40-50 years | 307 | 69        | 238   | 0.775      | 0.724       | 0.821       | CRO     | Mumps   |
| 50-60 years | 291 | 43        | 248   | 0.852      | 0.806       | 0.891       | CRO     | Mumps   |
| 60-70 years | 253 | 39        | 214   | 0.846      | 0.795       | 0.888       | CRO     | Mumps   |
| ≥ 70 years  | 132 | 19        | 113   | 0.856      | 0.784       | 0.911       | CRO     | Mumps   |
| 10-20 years | 220 | 15        | 205   | 0.932      | 0.890       | 0.961       | HU      | Rubella |
| 20-30 years | 266 | 30        | 236   | 0.887      | 0.843       | 0.923       | HU      | Rubella |
| 30-40 years | 159 | 18        | 141   | 0.887      | 0.827       | 0.932       | HU      | Rubella |
| 40-50 years | 205 | 22        | 183   | 0.893      | 0.842       | 0.932       | HU      | Rubella |
| 50-60 years | 116 | 11        | 105   | 0.905      | 0.837       | 0.952       | HU      | Rubella |

|             |     |    |     |       |       |       |     |         |
|-------------|-----|----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-----|---------|
| 60-70 years | 122 | 5  | 117 | 0.959 | 0.907 | 0.987 | HU  | Rubella |
| ≥ 70 years  | 111 | 4  | 107 | 0.964 | 0.910 | 0.990 | HU  | Rubella |
| 10-20 years | 143 | 11 | 132 | 0.923 | 0.867 | 0.961 | CRO | Rubella |
| 20-30 years | 279 | 37 | 242 | 0.867 | 0.822 | 0.905 | CRO | Rubella |
| 30-40 years | 359 | 60 | 299 | 0.833 | 0.790 | 0.870 | CRO | Rubella |
| 40-50 years | 307 | 42 | 265 | 0.863 | 0.820 | 0.900 | CRO | Rubella |
| 50-60 years | 291 | 18 | 273 | 0.938 | 0.904 | 0.963 | CRO | Rubella |
| 60-70 years | 253 | 27 | 226 | 0.893 | 0.849 | 0.929 | CRO | Rubella |
| ≥ 70 years  | 132 | 17 | 115 | 0.871 | 0.802 | 0.923 | CRO | Rubella |

---