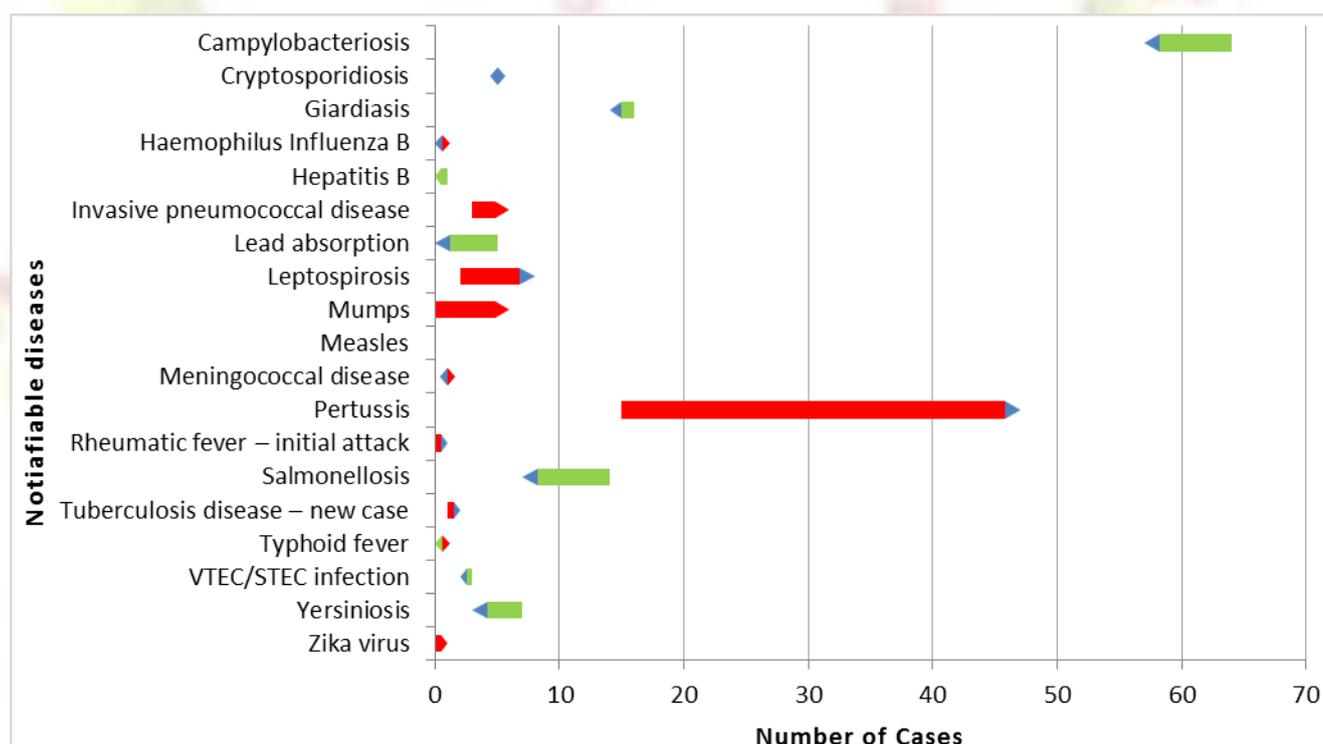


November 2017

PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN
Communicable diseases notified November 2017

Disease name	Nov 2016	Nov 2017	YTD	Disease name	Nov 2016	Nov 2017	YTD
Campylobacteriosis	64	57	519	Meningococcal disease	1	1	9
Cryptosporidiosis	5	5	119	Mumps	0	6	71
Dengue fever	1	0	8	Paratyphoid fever	0	0	1
Gastroenteritis – unknown cause	0	1	3	Pertussis	15	47	146
Gastroenteritis – foodborne intoxication	0	0	3	Rheumatic fever - initial attack	0	1	16
Giardiasis	16	14	160	Rheumatic fever – recurrent attack	0	0	1
Haemophilus Influenza b	0	0	1	Salmonellosis	14	7	98
Hepatitis A	0	3	5	Shigellosis	1	1	5
Hepatitis B	1	0	2	Tetanus	1	0	0
Invasive pneumococcal disease	3	6	43	Tuberculosis disease - new case	1	2	21
Lead absorption	5	0	5	Tuberculosis disease – relapse or reactivation	0	0	1
Latent Tuberculosis	3	10	51	Typhoid fever	0	0	2
Legionellosis	2	4	6	VTEC/STEC infection	3	2	35
Leptospirosis	2	8	51	Yersiniosis	7	3	57
Listeriosis	0	0	1	Zika virus	0	1	2
Malaria	0	0	3				

Figure 1: Notifiable diseases (selected), November 2017 compared to November 2016, Waikato DHB


Hepatitis A Outbreak

Population Health are investigating and managing an outbreak of Hepatitis A in an early childhood education centre in central Hamilton. Of 87 children, 4 have been identified as recent cases, and a further 4 have either been vaccinated or had previous infection. Serology tests have been requested for all children and staff. Vaccination will be offered to all children who are susceptible on 20/12/17 – a letter will be sent to each child's GP notifying of the vaccination – if you get one please follow up with the family next year to offer them a second (non-funded) vaccine to confer long-lasting immunity. No index case or common source exposure has yet been identified – there is no evidence of a wider community outbreak.

Website revamp

Waikato DHB's website has recently been updated, see www.waikatodhb.health.nz. Most of the public health resources are no longer present as they dealt with information that is available on sites like the Ministry of Health or Health Navigator. Management flowcharts and notification forms for mumps, measles, and pertussis are still available (go to "[Your Health / Notifiable and communicable diseases](#)" then look in the appropriate section). These will be moved into the map of medicine and online forms as able. Do let us know if there is any other material you'd like to re-establish access to. These bulletins are also still available (under "[For Health Professionals](#)" link).

Pertussis epidemic

As seen by the table and graph on first page the national pertussis epidemic is present in the Waikato. Guidance and notification forms are available on our website (as above) and will be updated soon (minor change to isolation period for people prescribed azithromycin). As always the best defence is on time immunisation, including in pregnancy and for childcare/healthcare workers, early treatment to

Medical Officers of Health: Felicity Dumble – Richard Wall – Richard Vipond – Richard Hoskins

After hours

MOoH 021 359 650

If there is no answer, please contact Waikato Hospital's switchboard 07 839 8899 and ask for the on-call MOoH.

reduce the infectious period, and isolation of suspect cases to interrupt transmission.

Cyanobacteria health warnings

It is common for there to be a seasonal rise of cyanobacteria levels in Waikato's shallow lakes during the warm summer months. Currently two of the regions lakes have a cyanobacteria health warning in place, Lakes Waikare and Ngaroto. Parts of Lake Taupo now also have a health warning because of cyanobacteria blooms.

Cyanobacteria produce toxins which are harmful to the health of humans and animals exposed to, or swallowing the water where it grows. Depending on exposure route (direct contact, ingestion, inhalation), dose, and presence of toxins of varying types, cyanobacteria may cause a range of symptoms or conditions such as:

- Eye irritation
- Sore throats
- Skin rashes
- Asthma-like symptoms / allergic reactions
- Flu-like symptoms / headache, fever, malaise, myalgia
- Pneumonitis / pneumonia
- Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain / gastroenteritis
- Hepatitis
- Neurological symptoms (visual disturbances, paraesthesia, weakness, respiratory paralysis)
- Confusion / hallucinations

Population Health would like to be informed about anyone presenting with symptoms that may be related to exposure to toxic algal blooms.

Skin contact and swallowing the water should be avoided when warnings are in place. If people do choose to use these lakes they should shower and change their clothing as soon as possible afterwards, even if no symptoms are noticeable.

During office hours

Population Health (MOoH or HPO) 07 838 2569

Notifications outside Hamilton: 0800 800 977

Email: notifiablediseases@waikatodhb.health.nz

Notifications: 07 838 2569 ext. 22065 or 22020

Fax: 07 838 2382