

PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN

Communicable diseases notified April 2009

Disease name	Apr-08	Apr-09	YTD	Disease name	Apr-08	Apr-09	YTD
Brucellosis	0	0	0	Meningococcal disease	0	1	1
Campylobacteriosis	30	29	204	Mumps	1	3	3
Cryptosporidiosis	4	3	8	Murine Typhus	0	0	0
Cysticercosis	0	5	0	Paratyphoid fever	0	0	0
Dengue fever	0	0	2	Pertussis	5	8	43
Gastroenteritis - unknown cause	1	0	10	Rheumatic fever - initial attack	2	2	7
Giardiasis	8	12	56	Rheumatic fever - recurrent attack	1	0	0
Hazardous substances injury	0	0	0	Salmonellosis	7	12	47
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	Shigellosis	0	1	2
Hepatitis B	0	0	0	Tuberculosis - treatment of latent infection	1	5	9
Hepatitis C	0	0	0	Tuberculosis disease - new case	1	2	6
Invasive pneumococcal disease	0	4	19	Tuberculosis disease - relapse or reactivation	0	0	1
Lead absorption	4	5	11	Typhoid fever	1	0	0
Legionellosis	0	0	1	VTEC/STEC infection	2	5	15
Leptospirosis	2	2	6	Yersiniosis	4	0	14
Listeriosis	0	0	0	TOTAL	74	103	469

Non-seasonal Influenza A (H1N1): Source MoH and ESR daily updates

Approximately 64 countries have reported cases of non-seasonal influenza (H1N1) giving a total of 18,965 cases (current 3 June 2009) and 117 deaths (World Health Organisation update).

This includes USA (89,759, 15 deaths), Mexico (5029, 97 deaths), Canada (1336, 2 deaths) and Australia 297, Japan 370 and UK 229.

Apart from Mexico, the majority of cases appear to have had a mild illness.

Widespread community-based transmission is taking place in both Mexico and USA.

Australia is reporting a total of 502 cases (www.healthemergency.gov.au).

There is currently no evidence of sustained human to human transmission outside of North

America. In Japan the recent increase in cases appears to be associated with schools and not with the virus being transmitted in local communities.

New Zealand has 17 confirmed cases (as at 09.06.09); all associated with travel. There is no evidence of community spread of the virus.

There are currently no travel restrictions in place or border closures however it is advised that people avoid non-essential travel to Mexico and caution to those travelling to the USA.

Also travellers are advised not to travel while ill and if develop symptoms following travel to seek medical advice. Currently in NZ, travellers are being screened at entry.

A statement providing information and advice is read on all incoming flights and passengers are being required to fill out a passenger locator form. Any passengers with acute respiratory-like illness are being medically assessed.

The case definition for a possible case is a person with an acute respiratory illness who has developed symptoms within seven days of travel to an area of concern; OR

A person with an acute respiratory illness who is considered to be a close contact of a probable or confirmed case.

Seasonal influenza

We are beginning to see confirmed cases of seasonal influenza nationally (48) and locally (2).

Of these, 17 are Influenza A but not yet typed, 15 are seasonal H1N1, 12 are seasonal H3N2 and two are B

http://www.surv.esr.cri.nz/virology/influenza_weekly_update.php

International news: measles in Wales

The Welsh National Public Health Service is investigating an increase in measles cases. There have been 237 cases with 27 hospitalised, some in intensive care, in these recent outbreaks.

The cases in mid and west Wales are linked to four clusters while those in North Wales are linked to two school outbreaks.

Parents are being urged to have their children complete the full course of MMR vaccination if anyone presents with measles-like illness.

Rheumatic Fever Updates

There is a national workshop on Rheumatic Fever at the University of Auckland lecture theatre, Middlemore Hospital on Friday 19 June and Saturday 20 June 2009.

Workshops will include school clinic projects to prevent rheumatic fever, rheumatic heart disease screening and health education/promotion of rheumatic fever/rheumatic heart disease.

For more information and registration forms, contact: s.schaumkel@auckland.ac.nz

Rheumatic Fever contact tracing

Waikato District Health Board has begun contact tracing of all new acute cases of rheumatic fever.

This is carried out to decrease the carriage rates within those close household members and reduce the risk of others developing Group A Strep, and possibly going on to Rheumatic Fever.

This process is driven by Population Health after receiving notification of a new case.

It will be promoting the 'Sore throats matter' message, and encourages those with sore throats to see their GP and expect a throat swab, and where necessary, treatment with antibiotics.

For further details or queries regarding Rheumatic Fever, please contact the Waikato Rheumatic Fever Group facilitator Michelle Hooker (07) 838 2569 or Hookermi@waikatodhb.govt.nz

Dell Hood Anita Bell Felicity Dumble
**Medical officers of health/public health
medicine specialists**

MOoH after hours

021 359 650

If there is no answer, please contact Waikato Hospital's switchboard and ask for the on-call MOoH. During office hours, please call Population Health

07 838 2569

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Phone numbers:

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Notifications **07 838 2569 ext 2065**
Notifications from out of Hamilton **0800 800 977**
(in office hours)

Health protection officer (after hours) 021 999 521

After hours help: **07 839 8899**

This bulletin is published by Waikato District Health Board's Population Health Service.