



Australian Government
**Department of Health
and Aged Care**

2022 · Volume 46

Communicable Diseases Intelligence

Meningococcal Surveillance Australia

Reporting period 1 April to 30 June 2022

Monica M Lahra, Sanghamitra Ray and Tiffany R Hogan for the National Neisseria Network

<https://doi.org/10.33321/cdi.2022.46.81>

Electronic publication date: 15/12/2022

<http://health.gov.au/cdi>

Communicable Diseases Intelligence

ISSN: 2209-6051 Online

This journal is indexed by Index Medicus and Medline.

Creative Commons Licence - Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives CC BY-NC-ND

© 2022 Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Department of Health and Aged Care

This publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial NoDerivatives 4.0 International Licence from <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/legalcode> (Licence). You must read and understand the Licence before using any material from this publication.

Restrictions

The Licence does not cover, and there is no permission given for, use of any of the following material found in this publication (if any):

- the Commonwealth Coat of Arms (by way of information, the terms under which the Coat of Arms may be used can be found at www.itsanhonour.gov.au);
- any logos (including the Department of Health and Aged Care's logo) and trademarks;
- any photographs and images;
- any signatures; and
- any material belonging to third parties.

Disclaimer

Opinions expressed in Communicable Diseases Intelligence are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care or the Communicable Diseases Network Australia. Data may be subject to revision.

Enquiries

Enquiries regarding any other use of this publication should be addressed to the Communication Branch, Department of Health and Aged Care, GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, or via e-mail to: copyright@health.gov.au

Communicable Diseases Network Australia

Communicable Diseases Intelligence contributes to the work of the Communicable Diseases Network Australia.
<http://www.health.gov.au/cdna>



Communicable Diseases Intelligence (CDI) is a peer-reviewed scientific journal published by the Office of Health Protection and Response, Department of Health and Aged Care. The journal aims to disseminate information on the epidemiology, surveillance, prevention and control of communicable diseases of relevance to Australia.

Editor

Noel Lally

Deputy Editor

Simon Petrie

Design and Production

Kasra Yousefi

Editorial Advisory Board

David Durrheim,
Mark Ferson, John Kaldor,
Martyn Kirk and Linda Selvey

Website

<http://www.health.gov.au/cdi>

Contacts

CDI is produced by the Office of Health Protection and Response, Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care, GPO Box 9848, (MDP 6) CANBERRA ACT 2601

Email:

cdi.editor@health.gov.au

Submit an Article

You are invited to submit your next communicable disease related article to the Communicable Diseases Intelligence (CDI) for consideration. More information regarding CDI can be found at: <http://health.gov.au/cdi>.

Further enquiries should be directed to:

cdi.editor@health.gov.au

Quarterly report

Meningococcal Surveillance Australia

Reporting period 1 April to 30 June 2022

Monica M Lahra, Sanghamitra Ray and Tiffany R Hogan for the National Neisseria Network

The reference laboratories of the National Neisseria Network, Australia report data on invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) cases confirmed by culture and or molecular techniques for the Australian Meningococcal Surveillance Programme (AMSP). Culture-positive cases, where *Neisseria meningitidis* is grown from a normally sterile site or from skin lesions, and molecular-based diagnoses, are defined as IMD by the Public Health Laboratory Network definitions. Data contained in quarterly reports are restricted to a description of the numbers of cases by jurisdiction and serogroup, when known. Some minor corrections to data in Table 1 may be made in subsequent reports if additional data are received. Overall, IMD in Australia has gradually increased over the first six months of 2022 subsequent to the easing of COVID-19 public health restrictions, but is still half pre-pandemic numbers, where there were 82 IMD in the corresponding period of 2019. Of note is the higher representation of meningococcal B (MenB) IMD in 2022 to date, accounting for 75% of IMD nationally compared to 50% in the same period of 2019 to 2021; MenB case numbers will be closely monitored over the year.¹ A full analysis of laboratory-confirmed cases of IMD in each calendar year is contained in the AMSP annual report published in *Communicable Diseases Intelligence*.

Author details

Monica M Lahra ^{1,2}
Sanghamitra Ray ¹
Tiffany R Hogan ¹

1. The World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for STI and AMR and Neisseria Reference Laboratory, NSW Health Pathology, Microbiology, Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick, NSW, 2031, Australia
2. The School of Medical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of New South Wales, Kensington, NSW, 2052, Australia

Corresponding author

Professor Monica M Lahra,

World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for STI and AMR and Neisseria Reference Laboratory, Microbiology Department, NSW Health Pathology, Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick, NSW, 2031, Australia

Telephone: +61 2 9382 9054
Facsimile: +61 2 9382 9098
Email: monica.lahra@health.nsw.gov.au

References

1. Lahra MM, Shoushtari M, Ray, S. Meningococcal Surveillance Australia: Reporting period 1 April to 30 June 2020. *Commun Dis Intell* (2018). 2020;44. doi: <https://doi.org/10.33321/cdi.2020.44.81>.

Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed cases of invasive meningococcal disease, Australia, 1 April to 30 June 2022, by serogroup and state or territory

Jurisdiction	Year	Serogroup													
		A		B		C		Y		W		ND ^a		All	
		Q2	ytd ^b	Q2	ytd	Q2	ytd	Q2	ytd	Q2	ytd	Q2	ytd	Q2	ytd
Australian Capital Territory	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New South Wales	2022	0	0	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	9
	2021	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	7	10
Northern Territory	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Queensland	2022	0	0	4	6	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	0	8	10
	2021	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	5	1	1	0	0	4	7
South Australia	2022	0	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6
	2021	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	4	5
Tasmania	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Victoria	2022	0	0	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	8
	2021	0	0	1	5	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	3	8
Western Australia	2022	0	0	3	6	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	0	6	10
	2021	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	3	6
Australia	2022	0	0	20	33	0	0	4	5	4	4	0	2	28	44
	2021	0	0	11	19	0	0	5	9	4	6	2	4	22	38

a ND: not determined.

b ytd: year to date, data from 1 January to 30 June 2022.