

National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report
Fortnight 23, 2017 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases
4 November to 17 November 2017

Infectious syphilis

Increases in infectious syphilis notifications are attributed to an on-going outbreak occurring in young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people residing in northern and central Australia and continued increases among men who have sex with men (MSM) in urban areas of Victoria and NSW.

Outbreak in remote Australia

In January 2011, an increase of infectious syphilis notifications among young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people was identified in the North West region of Queensland (QLD), following a steady decline at a national level in remote communities. Subsequent increases in infectious syphilis notifications were reported in the Northern Territory (NT) in 2013, Western Australia (WA) in 2014 and South Australia (SA) in 2016, following sustained periods of low notification rates. The outbreak is of significant public health concern given the: elevated rates of infectious syphilis among women of child-bearing age, increasing the risk of congenital syphilis; and the concomitant risk of HIV transmission.

For the latest information on the infectious syphilis outbreak, refer to the [Department's website \(http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-infectious-syphilis-outbreak.htm\)](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-infectious-syphilis-outbreak.htm)

Increases among MSM

Since 2010, increases in notifications of infectious syphilis have been reported in MSM, predominately 20-39 years of age, residing in urban areas of Victoria (VIC) and NSW.

Invasive Meningococcal Disease (IMD)

The number of cases of IMD due to serogroup W and serogroup Y has been increasing across most jurisdictions in Australia. The Australian Government Department of Health, in collaboration with the states and territories, is closely monitoring the incidence of IMD in Australia. For the latest information on IMD, refer to the [Department's website \(http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-meningococcal-W.htm\)](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-meningococcal-W.htm).

Pneumococcal disease (invasive)

Notifications of invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) were around 45% higher over the past quarter (n=719), when compared to the quarterly rolling 5 year mean (n=492.2). Notifications of IPD consistently increase and peak over the winter months and tend to correlate with the winter influenza seasons. The unexpectedly higher levels of IPD observed over the past quarter may potentially have been influenced by the increased seasonal influenza activity levels that have also been observed over this period. A more detailed analysis of IPD notification trends in Australia up to 30 June 2017 is available in the [IPD quarterly report \(http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cda-surveil-nndss-ipd-reports.htm\)](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cda-surveil-nndss-ipd-reports.htm).

Hepatitis A

There have been 63 notifications of hepatitis A in the last quarter, which is 2.2 times the quarterly rolling 5 year mean (37.2). Of these, 11 notifications occurred in the last fortnight, compared to 9 in the previous fortnight, and 3 in the same fortnight in 2016. Of these, 7 were reported to have acquired their infection in Australia, (3 Victoria, 2 New South Wales, and 2 South Australia) and 5/7 identified as men who have sex with men. NSW Health continues to investigate a previously reported outbreak of hepatitis A in Sydney and surrounding areas, with 28 confirmed cases as of 17 November 2017, 15 of whom identify as men who have sex with men.

Interpretative Notes

Selected diseases are chosen each fortnight based on either exceeding two standard deviations from the 90 day and/or 365 day five year rolling mean or other disease issues of significance identified during the reporting period. All diseases reported are analysed by notification receive date. Data are extracted each Monday of a CDNA week.

Totals comprise data from all States and Territories. Cumulative figures are subject to retrospective revision so there may be discrepancies between the number of new notifications and the increment in the cumulative figure from the previous period.

¹*The past quarter (90 day) surveillance period includes the date range (20/08/2017 to 17/11/2017).*

²*The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 17/11/2016. The ratio is the notification activity in the past quarter (90 days) compared with the five year rolling mean for the same period.*

³*The past year (365 day) surveillance period includes the date range (18/11/2016 to 17/11/2017).*

⁴*The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 17/11/2016. The ratio is the notification activity in the past year (365 days) compared with the five year rolling mean for the same period.*

The five year rolling mean and the ratio of notifications compared with the five year rolling mean should be interpreted with caution. Changes in surveillance practice, diagnostic techniques and reporting may contribute to increases or decreases in the total notifications received over a five year period. Ratios are to be taken as a crude measure of current disease activity and may reflect changes in reporting rather than changes in disease activity.

ADT FN23 Notification Received Date 4/11/17 to 17/11/17																				
Disease	State or Territory								Totals for Australia				Historical 90 Day Period			Historical 365 Day Period				
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	This Reporting Period	Previous Reporting Period	Same Reporting Period Last Year	2017 YTD	Past Quarter	Quarterly Rolling 5 year mean	Ratio Past Quarter /5 year mean	Exceeds Quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Past Year	Yearly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio Past year /5 year mean	Exceeds Yearly rolling mean +2 SD by
Bloodborne diseases																				
Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	3	119	24	39.2	0.6	-	137	157.6	0.9	-
Hepatitis B (unspecified)	1	91	0	27	0	4	41	19	183	216	206	5,280	1,444	1,643.0	0.9	-	5,936	6,375.0	0.9	-
Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	0	1	0	14	0	0	1	4	20	27	29	556	164	188.6	0.9	-	644	708.6	0.9	-
Hepatitis C (unspecified)	5	127	9	105	2	8	53	36	345	405	469	8,949	2,413	2,562.8	0.9	-	10,266	10,193.4	1.0	-
Hepatitis D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	49	17	12.2	1.4	-	58	55.0	1.1	-
Gastrointestinal diseases																				
Botulism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	1.6	0.0	-
Campylobacteriosis	15	NN	12	337	97	23	205	160	1,168	1,236	968	21,879	6,504	4,953.8	1.3	-	25,357	20,936.4	1.2	-
Cryptosporidiosis	-	12	2	19	4	4	27	8	76	73	115	4,421	495	446.0	1.1	-	4,972	4,075.6	1.2	-
Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	13	4	4.2	1.0	-	18	17.0	1.1	-
Hepatitis A	0	3	0	0	2	0	5	1	11	9	3	164	63	37.2	1.7	0.8	187	186.4	1.0	-
Hepatitis E	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	52	11	6.2	1.8	-	55	44.8	1.2	-
Listeriosis	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	3	1	64	17	17.4	1.0	-	78	79.0	1.0	-
Paratyphoid	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	2	3	49	8	11.0	0.7	-	60	74.0	0.8	-
STEC	0	0	0	0	13	0	2	1	16	21	21	417	114	52.8	2.2	-	489	238.2	2.1	114.9
Salmonellosis	5	125	24	140	41	7	111	82	535	606	498	14,773	2,951	2,765.0	1.1	-	16,832	16,000.2	1.1	-
Shigellosis	0	5	19	10	4	0	18	9	65	77	55	1,502	437	201.6	2.2	45.9	1,667	1,111.4	1.5	-
Typhoid Fever	0	2	0	1	0	0	3	1	7	3	4	122	24	22.8	1.1	-	138	123.6	1.1	-
Quarantinable diseases																				
Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.0	0.0	-
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.6	1.7	-	1	1.8	0.6	-
Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.0	0.0	-
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.0	0.0	-
Rabies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.0	0.0	-
Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.0	0.0	-
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.0	0.0	-
Viral haemorrhagic fever (NEC)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.0	0.0	-
Yellow fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.0	0.0	-
Sexually transmissible infections																				
Chlamydial infection	66	1,019	69	867	207	2	2	431	2,663	2,949	3,300	76,477	18,008	20,544.8	0.9	-	86,020	85,875.6	1.0	-
Donovanosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.0	-	0	0.2	0.0	-
Gonococcal infection	9	287	51	193	48	5	171	107	871	1,058	991	25,181	6,538	4,327.6	1.5	237.8	28,193	20,028.4	1.4	679.6
Syphilis < 2 years	1	11	14	39	8	0	6	12	91	170	158	3,708	990	601.4	1.6	-	4,106	2,772.4	1.5	-
Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	0	3	4	3	0	0	38	3	51	78	88	1,761	469	447.2	1.0	-	1,978	1,896.0	1.0	-
Syphilis congenital	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2	2.0	1.0	-	7	5.0	1.4	-

Footnotes:

* Ratio of the 90 day prior surveillance period to the past 90 day 5 year rolling mean, or ratio of the 365 day prior surveillance period to the 365 day 5 year rolling mean.

NN = Not Notifiable, NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified

Dates used are:

Past Quarter (90d prior surveillance period): 20/08/2017 to 17/11/2017

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean):

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean) 1: 20/08/2016 to 17/11/2016

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean) 2: 20/08/2015 to 17/11/2015

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean) 3: 20/08/2014 to 17/11/2014

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean) 4: 20/08/2013 to 17/11/2013

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean) 5: 20/08/2012 to 17/11/2012

Past year (365d prior surveillance period): 18/11/2016 to 17/11/2017

Yearly rolling 5Yr Mean (365d 5Yr Mean):

Yearly rolling 5Yr Mean (365d 5Yr Mean) 1: 19/11/2015 to 17/11/2016

Yearly rolling 5Yr Mean (365d 5Yr Mean) 2: 18/11/2014 to 17/11/2015

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Yearly rolling 5Yr Mean (365d 5Yr Mean) 5: 19/11/2011 to 17/11/2012

ADT FN23 Notification Received Date 4/11/17 to 17/11/17																				
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Vaccine preventable diseases																				
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	0.8	1.3		8	4.0	2.0	0.1
Haemophilus influenzae type b	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	13	5	3.6	1.4		16	17.8	0.9	
Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	20	318	25	557	358	31	276	219	1,804	3,330	2,278	233,488	135,507	34,128.8	4.0	62,666.1	237,637	#####	2.3	72,300.8
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	84	23	54.0	0.4		100	151.6	0.7	
Mumps	0	7	4	17	1	0	1	1	31	23	16	687	190	106.4	1.8		730	510.0	1.4	
Pertussis	5	182	7	66	70	4	78	53	465	515	936	11,105	2,978	5,067.4	0.6		13,764	16,166.8	0.9	
Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	3	32	1	13	2		23	6	83	84	71	1,900	719	492.2	1.5	112.6	2,079	1,665.4	1.2	165.4
Poliovirus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0		0	0.0	0.0	
Rotavirus	NN	82	1	62	93	5	NN	15	NN	NN	NN	6,248	3,076	N/A	N/A	916.6	6,641	N/A	N/A	1,855.3
Rubella	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	1	4.6	0.2		12	17.8	0.7	
Rubella congenital	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0.0		0	0.8	0.0	
Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0.8	0.0		5	4.4	1.1	
Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	7	NN	1	9	15	0	27	41	100	131	166	2,627	829	683.8	1.2		3,152	2,516.8	1.3	
Varicella zoster (shingles)	6	NN	11	0	69	7	65	53	211	325	326	7,439	2,041	1,445.2	1.4		8,502	6,457.2	1.3	
Varicella zoster (unspecified)	8	NN	0	301	56	13	195	101	674	753	659	15,568	4,303	3,152.0	1.4	150.3	17,453	13,666.4	1.3	
Vectorborne diseases																				
Barmah Forest virus infection	0	2	0	13	0	0	0	1	16	20	8	398	94	275.6	0.3		437	1,335.0	0.3	
Chikungunya virus infection	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	4	10	13	81	29	23.2	1.3		105	110.2	1.0	
Dengue virus infection	0	10	0	1	0	0	0	3	14	33	53	939	147	271.8	0.5		1,096	1,709.2	0.6	
Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	14	1	6.2	0.2		24	35.2	0.7	
Japanese encephalitis virus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.4			1	1.8	0.6	
Malaria	1	1	0	5	0	1	0	0	8	22	14	328	92	75.0	1.2		363	331.2	1.1	
Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0			0	0.4		
Ross River virus infection	0	7	2	34	3	0	4	20	70	92	58	7,144	548	732.2	0.7		7,643	5,973.0	1.3	
West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	0.4	7.5	1.5	6	2.2	3.2	3.4
Zoonoses																				
Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0		0	0.0	0.0	
Australian bat lyssavirus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0		0	0.2	0.0	
Brucellosis	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	14	2	5.0	0.4		16	17.8	0.9	
Leptospirosis	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	2	4	124	19	16.8	1.1		137	101.4	1.4	
Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0		0	0.0	0.0	
Ornithosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	16	4	11.4	0.4		20	31.2	0.6	
Q fever	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	6	9	24	413	75	124.6	0.6		492	511.8	1.0	
Tularaemia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0		0	0.0	0.0	
Other bacterial infections																				
Legionellosis	0	8	0	2	3	0	8	5	26	20	21	344	99	112.4	0.9		386	412.4	0.9	
Leprosy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	6	2	3.6	0.6		9	13.2	0.7	
Meningococcal disease (invasive)	0	2	2	1	1	3	4	4	17	20	16	352	157	63.6	2.5	50.9	378	223.2	1.7	77.3
Tuberculosis	0	17	1	8	3	0	6	8	43	72	62	1,203	364	359.4	1.0		1,394	1,320.6	1.1	
	153	2,361	259	2,855	1,100	120	1,374	1,406	9,689	12,409	11,647	456,106	192,006				489,805			

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