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Meningococcal Surveillance Australia

Reporting period 1 October to 31 December 2021

Monica M. Lahra, Masoud Shoushtari and Tiffany R Hogan for the National Neisseria Network
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Communicable Diseases Network Australia

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Quarterly reports

Meningococcal Surveillance Australia

Reporting period 1 October to 31 December 2021

Monica M. Lahra, Masoud Shoushtari and Tiffany R Hogan for the National Neisseria Network

The reference laboratories of the National Neisseria Network, Australia, report laboratory data on invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) cases confirmed by laboratory testing using culture- and non-culture-based 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 non-culture-based diagnoses (nucleic acid amplification testing), 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, where known. Some minor corrections to data in Table 1 may be made in subsequent reports if additional data are received. However, it is noted that there has been a continued reduction in the number of IMD laboratory-confirmed cases in 2021 compared to 2020, coinciding with the public health measures in place during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. 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.

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Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed cases of invasive meningococcal disease, Australia, 1 October to 31 December 2021, by serogroup and state or territory

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<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>Y</th>
<th>W</th>
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<sup>a</sup> ND: not determined. Serogroups A, B, C, W and Y not detected.<br>
<sup>b</sup> year to date (ytd): data as from 1 January to 31 December 2021.