

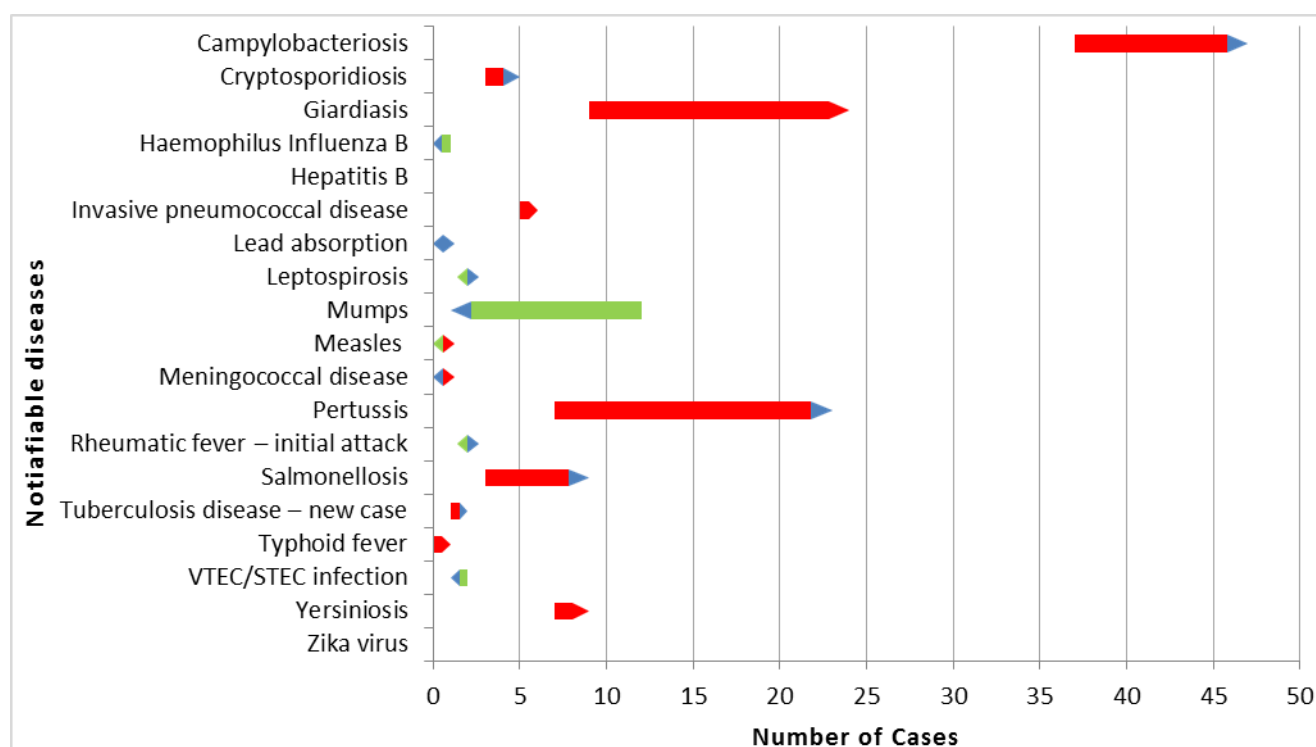
August 2018

PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN

Communicable diseases notified July 2018

Disease name	July 2017	July 2018	YTD	Disease name	July 2017	July 2018	YTD
Campylobacteriosis	37	47	290	Lead Absorption	0	0	7
Cryptosporidiosis	3	5	45	Meningococcal disease	0	0	2
Cysticercosis	0	0	1	Mumps	12	1	9
Dengue fever	1	0	18	Murine Typhus	0	0	1
Gastroenteritis – unknown cause	0	0	1	Pertussis	7	23	225
Gastroenteritis – foodborne intoxication	0	0	1	Rheumatic fever - initial attack	2	2	7
Giardiasis	9	24	104	Rheumatic fever – recurrent attack	0	0	1
Haemophilus Influenza B	1	0	0	Salmonellosis	3	9	62
Hepatitis A	0	2	4	Shigellosis	0	1	12
Invasive pneumococcal disease	5	6	22	Toxic Shellfish Poisoning	0	0	1
Latent Tuberculosis infection	4	3	34	Tuberculosis disease - new case	1	2	10
Legionellosis	0	0	2	Typhoid fever	0	1	3
Leptospirosis	2	2	15	VTEC/STEC infection	2	1	28
Malaria	0	0	3	Yersiniosis	7	9	45
Measles	0	0	1	Zika Virus	0	0	1

Figure 1: Notifiable diseases (selected), July 2018 compared to July 2017, Waikato DHB



Notification Urgency – “On suspicion”?

You will hear us grumbling 🙄 from time to time about notifications not having occurred early enough for us to get onto the risk of spread early enough. To be fair, although the Health Act 1956 (as amended) requires “notification on suspicion” of the 60 odd notifiable conditions, for many of our notifications we wait until confirmation or are quite happy to receive the notifications directly from the lab once lab confirmation occurs.

However there are three types of condition where we really do need you to phone us, including after hours, if you suspect it might be one of them. Often this will just result in us giving you advice regarding appropriate testing and instructions to pass on to the patient, usually the instructions will be about reducing potential for spread. Sometimes this is all that is needed to limit spread and stop the next outbreak or epidemic. Sometimes we will “leap into action” to deal with the possible case and their contacts ASAP.

The three groups we do want timely notification when you suspect it may be a case are:

1. The extremely rare, unexpected, and extremely volatile diseases: e.g. anthrax, cholera, MERS, SARS, Ebola, etc.
2. The severe ones and those with high outbreak potential where we need to get onto control fast (and often before confirmation), i.e.:
 - Botulism
 - Hepatitis A B & C
 - Typhoid and Paratyphoid fever
 - Brucellosis
 - Diphtheria
 - Haemophilus influenzae b
 - Measles, Mumps or Rubella
 - Meningococcal disease
 - Tetanus
 - Tuberculosis (pulmonary).
3. Other diseases where the person is in a high risk situation where they might spread it, i.e.:
 - Health worker
 - Food worker
 - Early Childhood worker or attendee
 - Where there are people at high risk due to disability or immunosuppressionOr
 - Where you think an outbreak might be underway (wider than within a household).

If in doubt notify on suspicion

BCG Vaccine Available (again)

You will probably have already received the Ministry of Health Factsheet about BCG vaccine being available again (after 3 years) for babies that meet the eligibility criteria. The Ministry is not advising a catch up campaign so there's nothing proactive to do, however remember that both new-born babies that meet the high risk criteria and babies under 5 years that meet the same criteria and whose caregivers request BCG vaccination can be referred to the PHNs. See our website for details of eligibility and the referral form: <https://www.waikatodhb.health.nz/for-health-professionals/bcg-vaccination-assessment-form/> (a link in the “For Health Professionals” section of our website).

Mumps

No new cases since last month's bulletin, just 2-3 in the rest of NZ, so this is nearly over!



Giardiasis

There have been an increased number of cases of Giardia in recent months, with no common source identified – but the usual suspects of untreated drinking water and farm animal contact.

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

After hours:

MOoH 021 359 650

HPO 021 999 521

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

During office hours:

Population Health (MOoH or HPO) (07) 838 2569

Notifications 07 838 2569 ext. 22065 or 22020

Notifications outside Hamilton: 0800 800 977 Fax: 07 838 2382 Email: notifiablediseases@waikatodhb.health.nz