

National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report
Fortnight 4, 2018 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases
17 February to 2 March 2018

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 New South Wales (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).

Listeria

Between 17 February and 2 March 2018, there were 14 notification of *Listeria monocytogenes* infection (listeriosis) notified nationally, compared with 11 during the previous fortnight and 6 during the same period of 2017. During the past quarter there were 42 notifications, 1.7 times the quarterly rolling mean of 24.8 notifications. This increase is substantially due to a multijurisdictional outbreak of listeriosis associated with the consumption of rockmelon from a single grower in NSW.

As of 2 March 2018, there were 15 cases associated with this outbreak. All cases have been hospitalised and three have died. All cases have been aged 60 years and over. A trade level recall of this product was initiated on 27 February 2018. Refer to the NSW Health and NSW Food Authority media releases for more information.

NSW Food Authority

<http://www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au/news/newsandmedia/departmental/2018-02-28-listeriosis-outbreak-link-to-rockmelon>

NSW Health http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/news/Pages/20180302_02.aspx

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 (03/12/2017 to 02/03/2018).*

²*The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 02/03/2017. 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 (03/03/2017 to 02/03/2018).*

⁴*The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 02/03/2017. 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 FN04 Notification Received Date 17/02/2018 to 02/03/2018																				
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	2018 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	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	10	8	23	42.2	0.5	-	131	166.4	0.8	-
Hepatitis B (unspecified)	3	99	0	32	1	2	77	23	237	250	263	946	1,377	1,464.4	0.9	-	5,928	6,427.0	0.9	-
Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	0	1	0	7	0	0	0	2	10	22	29	85	130	160.8	0.8	-	605	632.4	1.0	-
Hepatitis C (unspecified)	2	152	7	94	4	9	106	43	417	360	444	1,583	2,244	2,379.8	0.9	-	9,956	10,056.0	1.0	-
Hepatitis D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	8	14	12.2	1.1	-	64	51.2	1.3	-
Gastrointestinal diseases																				
Botulism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	0.2	10.0	0.9	2	1.4	1.4	-
Campylobacteriosis	23	304	9	327	109	25	247	137	1,181	1,261	1,041	6,781	8,556	5,433.6	1.6	465.1	24,449	19,566.2	1.2	-
Cryptosporidiosis	0	62	10	61	9	1	38	8	189	194	436	751	953	1,259.6	0.8	-	4,157	3,859.8	1.1	-
Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	6.0	0.3	-	14	17.8	0.8	-
Hepatitis A	0	6	0	3	1	0	17	1	28	30	7	85	123	64.8	1.9	35.1	263	183.2	1.4	5.7
Hepatitis E	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	5	5	14.6	0.3	-	45	41.6	1.1	-
Listeriosis	0	2	1	2	1	7	1	1	14	11	6	38	42	24.8	1.7	2.3	93	80.2	1.2	-
Paratyphoid	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	4	4	5	24	30	29.0	1.0	-	66	74.6	0.9	-
STEC	0	2	0	1	17	0	2	1	23	27	26	104	148	61.6	2.4	-	488	188.8	2.6	63.8
Salmonellosis	11	169	24	218	60	17	143	103	745	785	949	3,360	4,534	5,110.4	0.9	-	15,588	15,323.4	1.0	-
Shigellosis	1	8	15	18	0	0	27	13	82	94	59	398	562	299.4	1.9	65.0	1,855	937.6	2.0	184.9
Typhoid Fever	0	3	0	2	1	0	3	4	13	10	7	38	51	46.4	1.1	-	144	120.6	1.2	-
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	0	1	0.2	5.0	-	3	2.6	1.2	-
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	65	1,360	70	968	256	14	112	487	3,332	3,417	4,526	14,505	20,386	21,707.6	0.9	-	93,044	87,520.4	1.1	-
Donovanosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.4	0.0	-
Gonococcal infection	17	404	61	185	52	9	318	149	1,195	1,213	1,297	5,386	7,406	4,828.8	1.5	-	28,309	18,025.8	1.6	1,136.5
Syphilis < 2 years	1	27	14	34	8	0	25	23	132	147	170	690	972	623.8	1.6	-	4,363	2,388.0	1.8	320.0
Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	0	11	6	8	3	0	62	12	102	82	71	385	528	436.2	1.2	3.5	2,094	1,805.6	1.2	-
Syphilis congenital	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	-	8	3.4	2.4	-

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

Past Quarter (90d prior surveillance period): 03/12/2017 to 02/03/2018

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

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean) 1: 03/12/2016 to 02/03/2017

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean) 2: 04/12/2015 to 02/03/2016

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean) 3: 03/12/2014 to 02/03/2015

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean) 4: 03/12/2013 to 02/03/2014

Quarterly rolling 5Yr Mean (90d 5Yr Mean) 5: 03/12/2012 to 02/03/2013

Past year (365d prior surveillance period): 03/03/2017 to 02/03/2018

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

Yearly rolling 5Yr Mean (365d 5Yr Mean) 1: 03/03/2016 to 02/03/2017

Yearly rolling 5Yr Mean (365d 5Yr Mean) 2: 04/03/2015 to 02/03/2016

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Yearly rolling 5Yr Mean (365d 5Yr Mean) 5: 03/03/2012 to 02/03/2013

ADT FN04 Notification Received Date 17/02/2018 to 02/03/2018																				
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	2018 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
Vaccine preventable diseases																				
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	1.0	6.0	3.6	11	3.0	3.7	2.9
Haemophilus influenzae type b	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	5	7	2.6	2.7	2.1	18	17.8	1.0	-
Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	19	524	9	547	171	19	252	141	1,682	1,810	1,463	7,305	9,158	4,371.6	2.1	477.4	251,564	67,353.2	3.7	#####
Measles	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	6	7	48.0	0.1	-	74	175.4	0.4	-
Mumps	0	2	6	31	1	0	0	0	40	31	28	139	213	126.4	1.7	-	851	423.0	2.0	-
Pertussis	2	149	2	76	21	5	90	53	398	451	523	1,797	2,533	4,535.0	0.6	-	11,511	17,645.6	0.7	-
Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	0	17	1	16	4	0	8	2	48	35	47	178	267	239.6	1.1	-	2,054	1,623.2	1.3	142.3
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	41	2	29	14	1	NN	13	NN	NN	NN	505	852	N/A	N/A	-	7,036	N/A	N/A	2,329.9
Rubella	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	4.0	0.3	-	9	20.2	0.4	-
Rubella congenital	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.8	0.0	-
Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.0	1.0	-	4	4.4	0.9	-
Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	6	NN	7	9	7	1	50	15	95	119	92	462	743	567.6	1.3	-	3,155	2,379.2	1.3	-
Varicella zoster (shingles)	9	NN	15	50	81	9	86	63	313	469	335	1,901	2,979	1,586.2	1.9	688.0	9,551	5,892.0	1.6	1,208.8
Varicella zoster (unspecified)	2	NN	0	310	40	9	320	107	788	577	658	2,741	3,560	3,197.8	1.1	-	16,638	12,377.0	1.3	-
Vectorborne diseases																				
Barmah Forest virus infection	0	4	0	9	0	0	0	1	14	10	19	62	93	341.8	0.3	-	446	1,493.6	0.3	-
Chikungunya virus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	11	28.6	0.4	-	92	98.4	0.9	-
Dengue virus infection	0	7	0	3	0	0	0	2	12	26	66	159	210	508.4	0.4	-	932	1,784.8	0.5	-
Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	10.4	0.1	-	12	35.0	0.3	-
Japanese encephalitis virus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.0	-	1	1.6	0.6	-
Malaria	1	6	0	3	1	0	0	3	14	14	13	71	92	97.2	0.9	-	351	328.8	1.1	-
Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	-	0	0.4	0.0	-
Ross River virus infection	0	21	3	69	2	0	3	30	128	126	746	509	657	2,032.0	0.3	-	4,929	5,721.8	0.9	-
West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.0	-	6	0.8	7.5	3.5
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	0.2	0.0	-	0	0.2	0.0	-
Brucellosis	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	4	0	11	14	4.6	3.0	6.4	28	18.6	1.5	2.4
Leptospirosis	0	2	1	4	0	0	0	1	8	2	15	17	28	25.0	1.1	-	120	99.6	1.2	-
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	0	1	0	1	8.8	0.1	-	18	40.4	0.4	-
Q fever	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	5	22	29	81	115	128.0	0.9	-	461	502.0	0.9	-
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	3	0	1	10	1	23	18	13	78	112	88.6	1.3	-	400	409.4	1.0	-
Leprosy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	3.0	1.0	-	9	13.4	0.7	-
Meningococcal disease (invasive)	1	5	0	0	1	0	2	1	10	3	10	36	58	39.0	1.5	-	368	198.6	1.9	71.6
Tuberculosis	1	9	0	15	0	0	8	8	41	44	44	191	331	326.6	1.0	-	1,394	1,306.4	1.1	-
	164	3,408	262	3,150	867	123	2,013	1,449	11,336	11,675	13,460	51,448	70,143				503,712			

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