National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report

Fortnight 02, 2020 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases

18 January to 31 January 2020

Infectious and congenital 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, continued increases among men who have sex with men (MSM) in urban areas of Victoria (Vic) and New South Wales (NSW), and increases in non-Indigenous women residing in urban areas of Vic, NSW, Queensland (Qld) and Western Australia (WA).

Outbreak in remote Australia

In January 2011, an increase of infectious syphilis notifications among young (15-29 years) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people was identified in the North West region of 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, 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.

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 Vic and NSW.

Increases among non-Indigenous women

Since 2016, increases in notifications of infectious syphilis have been reported in non-Indigenous women aged predominately 20-39 years of age residing in urban areas of NSW, Vic, Qld and WA. As noted in the outbreak in remote Australia, increases in women of child-bearing age is of significant public health concern given the increased risk of congenital syphilis.

Influenza

In 2020 up to 31 January, there have been 5,487 laboratory-confirmed influenza cases reported to the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS). This is higher than the mean number of cases reported in the same period over the previous 5 years (n=2,411). However, the number of cases reported to the NNDSS in 2020 year to date remains lower than the number reported in the same period in 2019 (n=7,253).

The Department of Health closely monitors national influenza activity throughout the year, including during the inter-seasonal period. The Australian Influenza Surveillance Reports for 2019 are available on the Department's website.

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 (03/11/2019 to 31/01/2020).

[2]The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 31/01/2020. 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 (01/02/2019 to31/01/2020).

[4]The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 31/01/2020. 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 FN02/2020

Notification received date

Disease group	Disease name	Disease code	State or Territory								Totals for Australia				Historical 90 Day Period				Historical Yearly Period			
			ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	This reporting period 18/01/2020 31/01/2020	Previous reporting Period 04/01/2020 17/01/2020	Same reporting period last year 18/01/2019 31/01/2019	Current year YTD 01/01/2019 31/01/2020	Past Quarter 03/11/2019 31/01/2020	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Past Year 01/02/2019 31/01/2020	Yearly rolling 5 year mean 01/02/2014 31/01/2019	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	2	31	37.2	0.8	-	152	158.6	1.0	-
	Hepatitis B (unspecified)	052	5	63	-	19	3	2	47	16	155	200	209	382	1,154	1,340.0	0.9	-	5,591	6,149.2	0.9	-
	Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	040	1	-	-	22	1	-	-	-	24	24	20	50	219	166.6	1.3	18.2	789	705.6	1.1	-
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	5	109	5	63	1	8	39	42	272	295	302	602	1,822	2,307.8	0.8	-	8,324	10,041.2	0.8	-
	Hepatitis D	050	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	4	3	8	17	16.2	1.0	-	71	65.8	1.1	-
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism	045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	0.8	-	-	1	1.4	0.7	-
	Campylobacteriosis	005	24	419	14	414	94	32	262	124	1,383	1,732	1,466	3,409	9,936	7,685.2	1.3	-	36,093	25,889.6	1.4	77.4
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	2	32	5	53	2	-	40	45	179	170	123	364	845	882.8	1.0	-	2,775	3,933.8	0.7	-
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	055	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	4	4.6	0.9	-	17	16.2	1.0	-
	Hepatitis A	038	-	3	-	1	1	-	2	-	7	10	19	18	61	61.0	1.0	-	239	242.4	1.0	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	9	11.8	0.8	-	50	46.6	1.1	-
	Listeriosis	018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	5	9	20.4	0.4	-	47	76.6	0.6	-
	Paratyphoid	080	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	4	8	10	25	23.6	1.1	-	109	77.0	1.4	17.6
	STEC	054	-	3	-	1	10	-	10	7	31	35	22	74	202	108.0	1.9	-	668	335.8	2.0	-
	Salmonellosis	030	6	190	16	284	37	9	111	104	757	739	663	1,639	4,189	4,370.8	1.0	-	14,843	16,384.8	0.9	-
	Shigellosis	031	1	76	15	28	13	-	25	22	180	176	159	377	839	463.0	1.8	-	3,198	1,592.4	2.0	283.8
	Typhoid Fever	035	1	4	-	1	-	-	1	-	7	6	10	13	35	33.2	1.1	-	192	132.2	1.5	-
Quarantinable diseases	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Cholera	008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	2	1.4	1.4	-
	MERS-CoV	079	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Plague	025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rabies	028	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)	071	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Smallpox	069	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Viral haemorrhagic fever (NEC)	036	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Yellow fever	041	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
Sexually transmissible infections	Chlamydial infection	007	69	1,077	74	909	217	35	-	486	2,867	3,243	4,276	6,492	19,480	22,606.2	0.9	-	99,765	95,643.8	1.0	-
	Donovanosis	010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.2	-	-
	Gonococcal infection	011	23	382	34	283	81	8	1	174	986	1,391	1,404	2,542	7,363	5,946.8	1.2	-	33,055	23,851.2	1.4	-
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	1	20	9	23	3	-	23	24	103	186	184	317	1,168	911.8	1.3	-	5,591	3,596.4	1.6	-
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	-	3	-	4	-	-	28	2	37	98	77	145	485	478.8	1.0	-	2,453	2,057.4	1.2	77.8
	Syphilis congenital	047	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	3	1	-	4	7	1.4	5.0	3.8	10	5.8	1.7	-
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	3.0	1.0	-	7	6.6	1.1	-
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	6	4.4	1.4	-	25	18.2	1.4	1.8
	Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	062	50	1,101	43	802	184	14	25	246	2,465	2,608	2,883	5,487	13,347	8,658.4	1.5	-	312,332	114,917.6	2.7	41,161.1
	Measles	021	-	1	-	3	-	-	1	1	6	13	7	22	63	23.0	2.7	10.2	283	130.8	2.2	-
	Mumps	043	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	1	6	6	4	15	46	141.6	0.3	-	170	619.2	0.3	-
	Pertussis	024	9	150	2	77	7	11	42	14	312	459	546	863	3,089	4,956.8	0.6	-	11,665	16,012.0	0.7	-
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	1	11	1	12	1	-	9	6	41	87	47	142	450	316.2	1.4	29.4	2,154	1,772.4	1.2	-
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rotavirus	077	-	36	3	25	41	4	NN	13	122	218	75	417	2,216	956.8	2.3	751.5	6,270	4,050.4	1.5	-
	Rubella	029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2.6	-	-	21	13.6	1.5	-
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.2	-	-
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1.0	1.0	-	3	3.8	0.8	-
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073	7	NN	2	13	18	-	-	15	55	99	102	187	818	837.8	1.0	-	4,114	3,108.4	1.3	-
	Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	14	NN	17	75	80	9	2	77	274	486	454	866	3,264	2,313.6	1.4	-	14,508	8,697.8	1.7	-
	Varicella zoster (unspecified)	075	9	NN	-	268	64	15	2	60	418	207	485	670	1,849	3,401.8	0.5	-	12,093	14,066.8	0.9	-
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	-	5	-	13	-	-	-	1	19	10	16	32	64	84.0	0.8	-	263	478.6	0.5	-
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	2	5	21	30.0	0.7	-	79	95.4	0.8	-
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	3	3	2	3	1	-	10	22	31	61	58	225	355.8	0.6	-	1,390	1,540.4	0.9	-
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	5.0	0.8	-	15	33.8	0.4	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection	059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.2	5.0	-	3	1.0	3.0	-
	Malaria	020	1	4	-	7	1	-	-	4	17	7	13	27	92	79.2	1.2	-	381	328.4	1.2	-
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.6	-	-
	Ross River virus infection	002	-	4	2	25	-	-	-	17	48	44	105	103	348	1,139.0	0.3	-	2,888	5,729.6	0.5	-
	West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	060	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.2	5.0	-	2	1.6	1.3	-
Zoonoses	Anthrax	058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Australian bat lyssavirus infection	063	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Brucellosis	004	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	5.6	0.4	-	8	20.2	0.4	-
	Leptospirosis	017	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	3	6	4	10	21	21.4	1.0	-	87	115.4	0.8	-
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Ornithosis	023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	7.8	0.8	-	21	22.2	0.9	-
	Q fever	027	-	3	-	4	-	2	1	-	10	30	21	43	134	129.0	1.0	-	555	531.0	1.0	-
	Tularaemia	070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
Other bacterial infections	Legionellosis	015	-	3	1	2	1	-	6	3	16	17	13	33	121	105.4	1.1	-	431	400.8	1.1	-
	Leprosy	016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3.0	0.3	-	10	11.6	0.9	-
	Meningococcal disease (invasive)	022	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	8	8	11	35	57.8	0.6	-	203	254.0	0.8	-
	Tuberculosis	034	-	16	2	3	1	-	17	6	45	37	42	91	356	345.2	1.0	-	1,506	1,371.6	1.1	-
			229	3,729	248	3,445	866	150	697	1,522	10,886	12,701	13,849	25,546	74,484				585,522			

Footnotes:

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

NN = Not Notifiable, NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified

The data in this report are reliant on the provision of data from states and territories to the Australian Government Department of Health. Backlogs in notifications at the state or territory level may contribute to delays in reporting to the NNDSS. Notifications for some high volume conditions are only uploaded quarterly by some jurisdictions, which can result in apparent large variability over time. The NNDSS is a dynamic dataset, with data in this report representing data available on **(03/02/2020)**. Data in this report are subject to retrospective revision and may vary from data reported in published NNDSS reports and reports of notification data by states and territories.