



Bug Bulletin

Communicable Diseases Summary

January 2011

Thank you to all doctors notifying communicable diseases to the Public Health Unit during 2010. The list of notifiable diseases for SWAHS is on the reverse side of this sheet.

Summer Edition

Summer in western Sydney brings a new range of public health problems for GPs:

Bat bites & scratches: Warn your patients not to handle bats. If any do get a bite or scratches from a bat ensure the wound is cleaned, apply an antiseptic such as povidone-iodine and contact the public health unit to discuss the need for post-exposure prophylaxis.

Mozzies & arboviruses: Warn your patients to clear their home of mozzie breeding sites and to protect themselves from mosquito bites. Some mosquitoes in western Sydney are infected with Ross River or Barmah Forest virus – surveillance results and other information is published at: <http://medent.usyd.edu.au/arbovirus/>

Family reunions overseas: Western Sydney families who return to developing countries for the holidays may encounter infections such as hepatitis A, typhoid and cholera. Small children who were born in Australia, and even some adults, often return with one of these infections. Offer pre-travel vaccination where possible, and have a high index of suspicion in returning travellers who are unwell.

Heat waves, floods and bushfires: Practical health information to respond to these emergencies is available at <http://www.emergency.health.nsw.gov.au/>. In particular, warn vulnerable patients, including the elderly and those with chronic illnesses such as heart disease or asthma to have a strategy to keep cool and maintain their fluid intake during heat waves.

First Infant Vaccination at Six Weeks

To provide earlier protection during the pertussis outbreak it is recommended to give the first infant vaccinations at 6 weeks of age (Infanrix-hexa®, Prevenar® and Rotarix®).

There have recently been some incidents where these vaccinations were inadvertently given at both 6 weeks and 2 months. Please use the pre-vaccination check to carefully establish which prior vaccinations have been given.

School Program Catch-up

Students in Year 7 in 2010 who missed doses at school must complete their courses before the new school year starts to be eligible for free vaccine. Please contact the public health unit as soon as possible to order vaccines for these students.

HAPPY NEW YEAR – WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH YOU IN 2011. WE ARE NOW PART OF THE WESTERN CLINICAL SUPPORT CLUSTER BUT STILL CONTACTABLE ON OUR USUAL NUMBERS:

Centre for Population Health
Parramatta Office
Gungurra (Building 68) Cumberland Campus
Locked Bag 7118
Parramatta BC, NSW 2124
Phone (02) 9840 3603
Fax (02) 9840 3608

Penrith Office
Barber Avenue
Penrith 2751
Locked Bag 63, Penrith, NSW
Phone (02) 4734 2022
Fax (02) 4734 3444

After hours: telephone Westmead Hospital switch on 9845 5555 and page the Public Health Officer on-call.



NOTIFIABLE CONDITIONS FOR SYDNEY WEST AREA HEALTH SERVICE, 2010

Condition	2009		2010												
	Nov	YTD	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Blood Borne Viruses															
Hepatitis B - Newly Acquired	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Hepatitis B - Unspecified	59	565	61	71	78	63	61	57	69	64	50	63	58		695
Hepatitis C - Newly Acquired	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Hepatitis C - Unspecified	51	436	50	58	57	46	29	42	42	62	54	43	47		530
Hepatitis D	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Diseases															
Cholera	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cryptosporidiosis	2	251	10	6	7	6	4	2	4	2	2	2	2		47
Giardiasis	24	290	35	28	39	33	27	29	26	23	14	17	24		295
Haemolytic Uremic Syndrome	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hepatitis A	1	12	5	7	-	-	1	-	1	-	8	6	-		28
Hepatitis E	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Listeriosis	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		2
Rotavirus	N/A	N/A	15	6	9	10	9	9	9	17	47	42	31		204
STEC/VTEC	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salmonellosis	39	388	68	71	91	54	45	17	31	39	40	41	51		548
Shigellosis	2	15	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-		4
Typhoid	-	11	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	2	1	-	-		8
Respiratory Diseases															
Influenza	9	3081	18	11	12	28	16	16	34	73	79	48	34		369
Legionellosis	-	18	1	4	4	3	1	3	-	1	-	2	-		19
Tuberculosis	3	124	20	8	3	1	1	4	7	3	1	-	-		69
Sexually Transmissible Infections															
Chlamydia	165	1750	196	207	228	185	191	201	166	209	211	184	205		1999
Gonorrhoea	24	153	30	19	19	18	14	18	18	19	19	22	16		190
Lymphogranuloma venereum	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	1	-		5
Syphilis - >2 years/unk. duration	1	39	5	2	5	2	2	3	-	2	-	1	-		22
Syphilis - Infectious	6	44	3	1	3	1	1	-	3	1	-	-	1		14
Vaccine Preventable Diseases															
Adverse Event Following Immunisation	2	21	1	4	6	9	-	-	-	-	3	1	3		27
Haemophilus influenzae type b	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-		1
Measles	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		1
Meningococcal Disease	2	11	-	1	-	-	1	-	3	1	1	3	2		12
Mumps	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Pertussis	97	2061	80	65	55	48	72	76	75	81	167	262	240		1221
Pneumococcal Disease (Invasive)	1	66	3	1	3	4	6	7	13	8	8	7	4		64
Rubella	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		-
Vector Borne Diseases															
Barmah Forest	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		3
Chikungunya	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		1
Dengue	1	21	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	1		6
Malaria	-	19	-	-	1	1	2	2	5	4	3	2	-		20
Ross River	-	15	5	1	14	24	9	6	1	-	-	-	-		60
Zoonoses															
Leptospirosis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Psittacosis	-	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		1
Q fever	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-		4
Other Conditions															
CJD (classic & variant)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-		1
Chlamydia - Congenital	2	24	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	2	-	2	-		7
Lead Poisoning	1	21	-	2	2	2	3	-	2	2	-	-	-		13
Syphilis - Congenital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-

Note: 2010 data is preliminary and subject to change