

November 2022

Waikato Public Health Bulletin

Tēnā koutou katoa. We hope you enjoy this edition of the Waikato Public Health Bulletin.

Monkeypox update

There continues to be a low level of monkeypox (MPX) transmission within Aotearoa. There have been 36 cases, as at 23/11/2022, with cases in Auckland, Hamilton, Bay of Plenty, Wellington and Canterbury. There has been one case identified in Hamilton in the past month. Given that there is ongoing local transmission it is important to stay vigilant about the possibility of MPX in patients presenting with a macular, papular, vesicular or pustular rash, especially in priority populations (persons who had multiple or anonymous sexual partners in the 21 days before symptom onset, gay, bisexual or other men who have sex with men).

There is ongoing work nationally to design a smallpox vaccination programme. The smallpox vaccine is estimated to be 80% effective against MPX. PHARMAC have secured a contract for a third generation smallpox vaccine, with first delivery expected in December 2022. Administration is likely to be intradermal because this route requires smaller doses than subcutaneous administration; therefore, the limited supply can be used more efficiently. Eligibility will be restricted to those at high risk and is likely to be used for both pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis.

Mothercraft

[Mothercraft](#) provides a five-day programme of 24-hour support and education for parents and their babies (less than one year) who are experiencing a variety of issues including feeding and sleep disturbance, reflux management, weight faltering, and maternal exhaustion. There is currently space available in this programme and Mothercraft are asking for GPs to refer any whanau who may benefit from this service. Referrals can be emailed to RCC@waikatodhb.health.nz.

NZCPHM Annual Scientific Meeting

The New Zealand College of Public Health Medicine held its Annual Scientific Meeting in Dunedin on the 16th to 18th of November. The theme of this year's meeting was 'Kaupapa Hauora: Ngā Mana, Ngā Manaakitanga, Ngā Urutā - Planetary Health: Power, Privilege and Pandemics'. Alongside the scientific presentations, there was a one-day workshop led by Dr Anna Matheson and Associate Professor Alex McMillan on 'Integrated systems and modelling for public health: a practical focus on current issues'. Dr Liz Becker, Dr Richard Vipond and Mark Waitai from the Waikato Public Health Service presented a descriptive analysis of the COVID-19 Delta outbreak in Waikato, and gave an overview of working in partnership with Marangai Areare and following a kaupapa Māori approach.

The College awarded fellowships, including associate fellowships to two registrars from the Waikato region: Dr Liz Becker (Te

Korowai Health) and Dr Kate Yang (Waikato Public Health Service).

Regional Director of Public Health

On the 3rd of November the Waikato Public Health Service and Marangai Areare held a pōwhiri at Hui Te Rangiora Marae to Welcome Dr Natasha White, the new Regional (Te Manawa Taki) Director of Public Health. She replaces Dr Simon Everitt who has been serving as the interim director. Natasha has previously worked as a registrar in the Waikato Public Health Unit.



Figure 1: Pōwhiri for Dr Natasha White, the incoming Regional Director of Public Health, Te Manawa Taki.

Notifiable diseases – Trends

Notifiable diseases (Waikato District) - period to: November 2022

*Stats NZ estimated 8.69% of the population resided in Waikato in 2021. Red indicates over-representation of Waikato

Disease name	Waikato cases per month			Cases per month over the last year (mean)		
	September	October	Trend	Waikato	National	% Waikato*
Botulism	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	-
Brucellosis	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	-
Campylobacteriosis	64	47	▼	48.3	490.3	10
COVID-19	3,945	4,936	▲	12,150.3	152,103.5	8
Cryptosporidiosis	20	17	▼	7.8	50.6	15
Decompression sickness	0	0	-	0.0	0.2	0
Dengue fever	0	0	-	0.0	1.0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	-	0.0	0.2	0
Gastroenteritis - unknown cause	3	1	▼	0.5	13.3	4
Gastroenteritis / foodborne intoxication	4	3	▼	2.9	12.1	24
Giardiasis	9	6	▼	7.2	56.1	13
Haemophilus influenzae type b	0	0	-	0.0	0.1	0
Hepatitis A	2	1	▼	0.4	3.2	13
Hepatitis B	0	0	-	0.1	1.0	10
Hepatitis C	0	0	-	0.1	2.8	4
Hepatitis NOS	0	0	-	0.0	0.1	0
Hydatid disease	0	0	-	0.0	0.3	0
Invasive pneumococcal disease	5	5	-	4.3	50.0	9
Latent tuberculosis infection	2	0	▼	0.5	9.8	5
Lead Poisoning	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	-
Legionellosis	1	1	-	1.1	18.3	6
Leprosy	0	0	-	0.1	0.3	33
Leptospirosis	1	3	▲	1.8	10.6	17
Listeriosis	0	1	▲	0.3	2.4	13
Listeriosis - perinatal	0	0	-	0.0	0.6	0
Malaria	0	0	-	0.1	0.8	13
Measles	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	-
Meningococcal disease	0	0	-	0.3	5.6	5
Mumps	0	0	-	0.0	0.1	0
Murine Typhus	0	0	-	0.2	0.4	50
Pertussis	1	1	-	0.3	1.4	21
Q fever	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	-
Rheumatic fever - initial attack	1	0	▼	0.7	6.8	10
Rheumatic fever - recurrent attack	1	0	▼	0.1	0.3	33
Salmonellosis	4	11	▲	5.0	60.1	8
Shigellosis	3	1	▼	0.4	4.2	10
Taeniasis	0	0	-	0.0	0.2	0
Tetanus	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	-
Tuberculosis disease - new case	4	1	▼	2.3	24.6	9
Tuberculosis disease - relapse or reactivation	0	0	-	0.0	0.5	0
Tuberculosis infection - on preventive treatment	0	0	-	0.0	0.5	0
Typhoid fever	0	1	▲	0.2	1.5	13
VTEC/STEC infection	12	10	▼	8.5	83.9	10
Yersiniosis	11	9	▼	7.9	106.4	7

Medical Officers of Health: Felicity Dumble, Richard Wall, Richard Vipond, and 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. 22041 or 22020

Notifications outside Hamilton: 0800 800 977 **Fax:** 07 838 2382 **Email:**

notifiablediseases@waikatodhb.health.nz

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