

December 2019 of Publication

PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN

Update on Notifying Notifiable Diseases

1. Georgia Henderson has joined Reena Narayan as **clinical support officer** (CSO) working with our MOoHs and nurses managing notifications. Georgia started at the Public Health Unit in October, 2019. She has a Bachelor of Health Sciences/Science degree from Auckland University and her role is to receive communicable disease notifications and provide support around other communicable disease tasks.
2. A reminder for that **non-urgent disease notifications** can be sent to Public Health Unit via our generic email: notifiablediseases@waikatodhb.health.nz or by calling Public Health Unit (CSO) on 07 838 2569.
3. **Notifications for urgent diseases** (see bulletin of August 2018 for explanation, available at: <http://www.waikatodhb.health.nz/for-health-professionals/public-health-bulletins/>) must always be phoned – after hours choose the option for the on call Medical Officer of Health.
4. For any urgent communicable disease notifications or queries **during Christmas and new year** break please contact:
 - on-call Health Protection Officer 021 999521 or
 - Medical Officer of Health 021 359650.
5. Non-urgent notifications can be emailed to CSO via generic email (as above). During office hours call Public Health (MOoH or HPO) on: (07) 838 2569 ext. 22065 or 22020.

Public Health Bulletin Survey Reminder

A reminder that the public health bulletin survey is still available. Please take a few minutes to provide us with your honest feedback at: <https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/uxzujD> by Friday, 20 December, if you have not already done so. We aim to improve our delivery of public health information based on your responses. Thank you for your time and participation.

New location for PHU

As you may be aware the Public Health Unit moved from its location on the fifth floor of the Hugh Monkton Trust building to share office space in the “old Farmer’s store” building. Our physical address is 87 Alexandra St, and our postal address remains the same. Once everyone has moved in (we were first) there will be hundreds of DHB personnel sharing the first and second levels. Our CEO is currently considering where the PHU is best placed within the organisational structure. We will update you once a decision has been reached.

STI Notifications

It is important that STI notifications for syphilis, gonorrhoea, AIDS and HIV are made using the correct process. Please go to the STI surveillance web page for the appropriate notification forms and follow the relevant instructions (link below).

https://surv.esr.cri.nz/public_health_surveillance/sti_surveillance.php

We recommend that you save this link to your favourites, as it can be difficult to find when needed.

Notification of STIs must be made using the correct forms and using this process, as the Health Act requires that notification is made without giving identifying information of the patient.

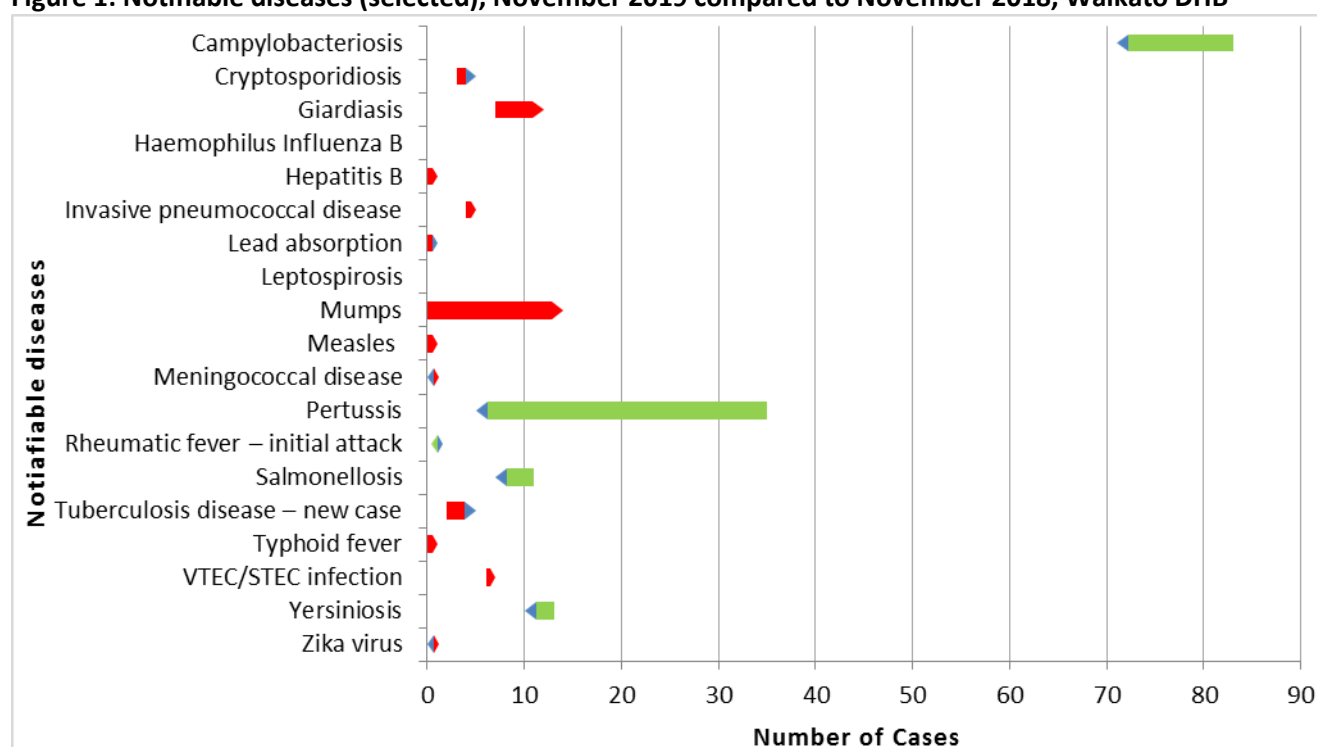
PHU new Service Director starts January 20th

Bevan Clayton-Smith has been announced as our new Service Director – Public Health, commencing early next year. Bevan comes to us from Taranaki DHB where he manages the Public Health Service along with Regional Screening and the Community Pharmacy portfolio. Bevan has strong ties with the Waikato with Ngati Maniapoto whakapapa. He replaces Nicola Parker who has more than ably provided cover as the interim Manager for Public Health since May. We want to acknowledge Nicola’s leadership over the past 7 months.

Communicable diseases notified November 2019

Disease name	Nov 2018	Nov 2019	YTD	Disease name	Nov 2018	Nov 2019	YTD
Campylobacteriosis	83	71	572	Malaria	0	0	2
Chikungunya fever	0	1	2	Measles	0	1	51
Cryptosporidiosis	3	5	110	Meningococcal disease	0	0	10
Dengue fever	0	4	34	Mumps	0	14	21
Gastroenteritis - unknown cause	0	0	4	Murine Typhus	0	0	1
Gastroenteritis / foodborne intoxication	0	10	107	Pertussis	35	5	140
Giardiasis	7	12	172	Q fever	0	1	1
Hepatitis A	0	0	6	Rheumatic fever - initial attack	1	1	11
Hepatitis B	0	1	3	Rheumatic fever - recurrent attack	0	0	3
Hepatitis NOS	0	2	2	Salmonellosis	11	7	91
Invasive pneumococcal disease	4	5	42	Shigellosis	1	0	13
Latent tuberculosis infection	3	0	16	Tuberculosis disease - new case	2	5	27
Lead Absorption	0	1	15	Tuberculosis disease - relapse or reactivation	0	0	1
Legionellosis	1	1	4	Typhoid fever	0	1	6
Leprosy	0	0	1	VTEC/STEC infection	6	7	105
Listeriosis	1	0	2	Yersiniosis	13	10	74
Listeriosis - perinatal	0	0	1	Zika virus	0	0	2

Figure 1: Notifiable diseases (selected), November 2019 compared to November 2018, Waikato DHB



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