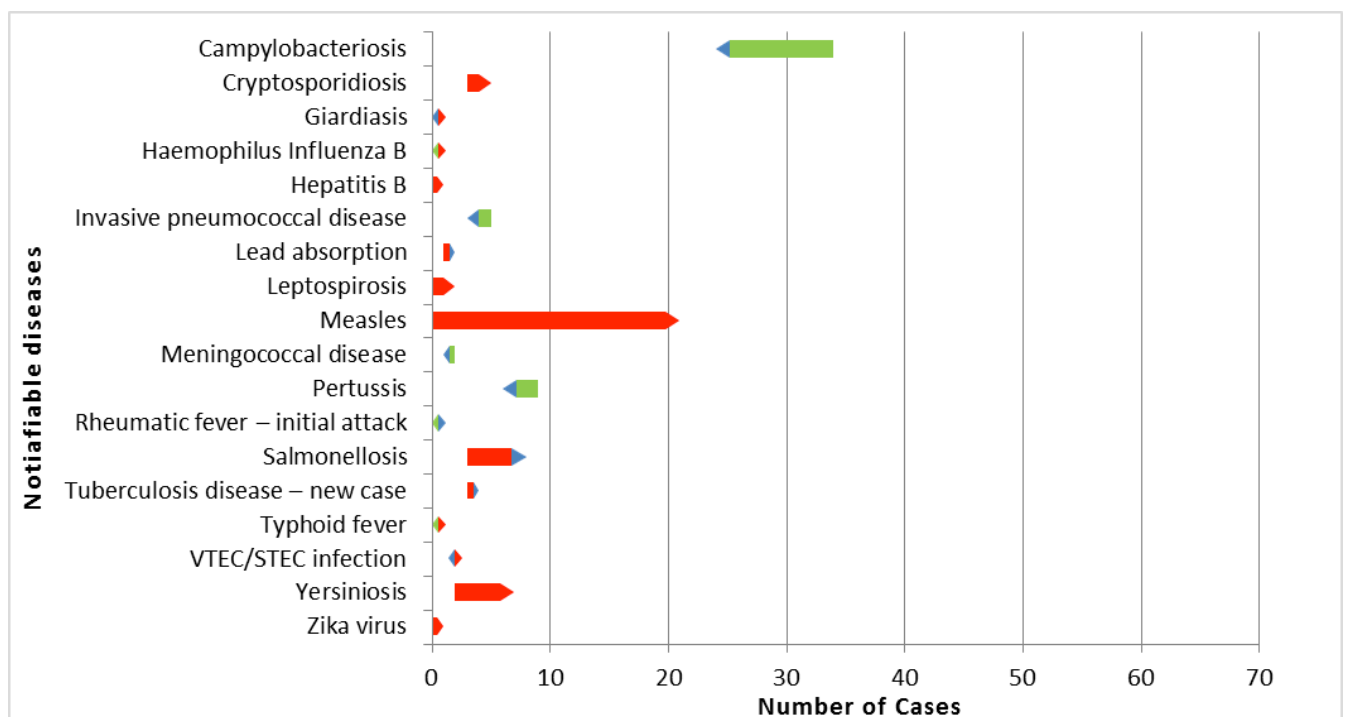


**PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN**

**Communicable diseases notified June 2016**

Disease name	June 2015	June 2016	YTD	Disease name	June 2015	June 2016	YTD
Campylobacteriosis	34	24	236	Mumps	0	0	0
Chikungunya Fever	0	0	1	Murine Typhus	1	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis	3	5	26	Paratyphoid fever	0	0	0
Dengue fever	0	5	6	Pertussis	9	6	70
Giardiasis	0	0	0	Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Haemophilus Influenza B	0	0	0	Q fever	0	0	0
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	Rheumatic fever - initial attack	0	0	2
Hepatitis B	0	1	1	Rheumatic fever – recurrent attack	0	0	1
Hepatitis C	0	0	0	Ross River virus infection	0	0	0
Invasive pneumococcal disease	5	3	14	Salmonellosis	3	8	47
Lead absorption	1	2	13	Shigellosis	1	1	47
Legionellosis	1	1	8	Tetanus	0	0	0
Leptospirosis	0	2	8	Toxic Shellfish Poisoning	0	0	0
Listeriosis	0	0	1	Tuberculosis disease - new case	3	4	15
Listeriosis – Perinatal	0	0	1	Typhoid fever	0	0	3
Malaria	0	0	1	VTEC/STEC infection	2	2	28
Measles	0	21	54	Yersiniosis	2	7	17
Meningococcal disease	2	1	3	Zika virus	0	1	8

**Figure 1: Notifiable diseases (selected), June 2016 compared to June 2015, Waikato DHB**



## Yellow fever vaccination boosters not required

### New Medical Officer of Health

We would like to welcome our new medical officer of health/public health medicine specialist, Richard Hoskins, to our service. Richard began working for Population Health on 25/7/2016 and will be working here full time. He brings a lot of experience to this role, having worked in similar roles elsewhere in the country, most recently for the Auckland Regional Public Health Service.

### Measles

We remain very busy managing the current measles outbreak in the Waikato region which is in its 17<sup>th</sup> week at the time of writing. We would like to acknowledge the great work being done in the community to try and prevent the spread of this disease. In addition to measles, there are a number of measles-like conditions and presentations complicating this and resulting in heavy workloads in the health sector. We appreciate all your efforts.

To date there have been **56 confirmed cases of measles** notified since the beginning of April 2016, and we have a further **3 cases under investigation** awaiting test results. A further 143 people have been investigated, but found not to be cases of measles based on test results.

Twelve of the confirmed measles cases have required admission to hospital. Most cases are aged in their teens and early adult years.

#### Age range of measles cases in Waikato

Age group	Number
0 – 14m	13
15m – 4y	9
5 – 9	3
10 – 19	21
20 – 29	9
30+	1

The majority of the confirmed cases are epidemiologically linked. There are currently no cases associated with schools or cultural events. However, there is to be a Kapa Haka Secondary Schools competition in the Hawkes Bay 25-29<sup>th</sup> July. **We encourage all supporters and participants to know their immunisation status and get vaccinated if overdue.**

Just a reminder that it is important for you to notify Population Health of any measles cases on suspicion. PCR tests will not be processed by the laboratory unless the case has been notified. Any people presenting with symptoms compatible with measles need to be kept away from others and not sit in waiting rooms with others.

A range of information about measles is available on the Waikato DHB website:  
<http://www.waikatodhb.health.nz/public-health-advice/a-z-of-public-health-topics/m-o/measles/>

- From 11 July 2016, yellow fever vaccination boosters are no longer required
- New HP4410 travel vaccination certificates with updated wording are available to order now
- Previously completed vaccination certificates will remain valid for life.

The International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005) allow countries to require proof of vaccination against yellow fever, with vaccination considered effective for 10 years. From today, following a change to Annex 7 of the IHR, a single yellow fever vaccination is considered to confer lifetime immunity and countries cannot require revaccination for entry. NB: Clinical advice regarding specific cases where revaccination may be indicated has not changed.

### Pilgrims visiting the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for purposes of Hajj or Umrah.

Due to risks from Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and the significantly high temperatures expected at the 2016 Hajj (due to the summer season) the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia government recommends that elderly pilgrims (above 65 years of age) and those with chronic diseases (such as heart, kidney, respiratory disease and diabetes), immune deficiency (congenital and acquired), malignancy, terminal illness, pregnant women, and children (under 12 years) postpone plans to participate in the pilgrimage this year (refer <http://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Hajj/Pages/default.aspx>).

Associated health risks include:

- Overcrowding can increase the risk of infections such as meningococcal disease, influenza, pneumonia and MERS (see below for information regarding MERS).
- Diarrheal disease is also common during Hajj due to contaminated drinking water or food.
- Cardiovascular disease and heat-related illness are the major causes of death in travellers to the Hajj.
- Road traffic accidents are also a major cause of injury and death as pilgrims may walk long distances near or through heavy traffic.
- Bloodborne pathogens can be transmitted during parts of the pilgrimage involving shaving and haircutting if razors/scissors are used on multiple pilgrims.

The latest World Health Organization information on MERS-CoV can be found at:  
<http://www.who.int/emergencies/mers-cov/en/>

### Advice regarding pregnancy and Zika virus

Following further research regarding the impact of Zika virus infection during pregnancy, the Ministry of Health has updated its advice for women who are pregnant or who plan to become pregnant in the near

term and are considering travel to Zika-affected areas, as follows:

The Ministry of Health recommends that women who are pregnant or plan to become pregnant in the near term should defer travel to areas with Zika virus present. If travel is essential, if possible delay pregnancy if travelling to these areas.

Further information about Zika virus is available on the Ministry of Health website:

<http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/zika-virus>

Felicity Dumble -- Richard Wall – Richard Vipond –  
Richard Hoskins  
Medical Officers of Health

**After hours:**

**MOoH 021 359 650 HPO 021999521**

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](mailto:notifiablediseases@waikatodhb.health.nz)**