

## MONTHLY NOTIFIABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE REPORT

Data contained within this monthly report are based on information recorded on EpiSurv by Public Health Service (PHS) staff as at 13 November 2023. Changes made to EpiSurv after this date will not be reflected in this report. The data are provisional and include cases that are still under investigation, some of which may become 'Not a case'. For this reason, comparisons between the current year and previous years should be treated with caution.

### KEY NOTIFIABLE DISEASE TRENDS

#### Measles

Nine confirmed measles cases were reported in October 2023. Eight cases were part of an outbreak (see details in the outbreak section). The remaining case that was not associated with the outbreak had been overseas during the incubation period.

#### Mpox

Two mpox cases were reported in October 2023. Both acquired their infection overseas. These are the first cases reported since 2 February 2023. There have been 44 cases reported in New Zealand to date.

#### Mumps

Four confirmed cases of mumps were reported in October 2023, compared with one case for the same month in 2022. The cases were reported from Waitemata, Auckland, Counties Manukau and Canterbury districts. Three cases were males aged 30–39 years and one was a female aged 15–19 years. One case had travelled overseas during the incubation period and one case was a close contact of a case reported in September. Two cases had a known vaccination status, both were not vaccinated. One case was hospitalised.

#### Tetanus

A case of tetanus was reported in October 2023. The case was a male aged over 70 years who was infected following a minor gardening injury and subsequently died. The case was confirmed based on clinical presentation and had not had a recent tetanus vaccination.

## OUTBREAKS

#### Acute gastroenteritis

There were 50 acute gastroenteritis illness outbreaks reported in October 2023, compared with 23 outbreaks for the same month in 2022. A pathogen was identified in 24 outbreaks: 18 were due to norovirus, four were rotavirus, one was norovirus and rotavirus, and one was sapovirus. The majority were in long-term care facilities (22/50, 44.0%) and childcare centres (20/50, 40.0%).

An outbreak of acute gastroenteritis due to *Bacillus cereus* / *Clostridium perfringens* was reported in October 2023, involving 12 cases (2 confirmed and 10 probable). The setting was a catered private event, and the source was a chicken curry. *B. cereus* and *C. perfringens* were identified from clinical samples and from leftover curry. *Staphylococcus aureus* was also isolated from the clinical samples. MPI and Council staff identified issues with the cooling process used and issued the premise with an improvement notice.

### Cryptosporidiosis

There have been no further cases linked to the cryptosporidiosis outbreak reported in September 2023 from the Southern district. Detailed investigations into the source of the current cryptosporidiosis outbreak in Queenstown have concluded the most likely source is human faecal contamination of the water supply. For more details, see the [Te Whatu Ora Southern website](#).

### Measles

A measles outbreak involving eight cases was reported during October 2023. The cases were aged 1–4 years, 5–9 years, 10–14 years (1 case each), 15–19 years (2 cases) and 20 years and over (3 cases). Three cases, including the index case, were reported from Northland district, two were from Waikato, two from Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley and one was from Southern. The [index case](#) had no recent history of travel outside of New Zealand and no known exposure to a measles case.

### Respiratory illness

There were 10 respiratory illness outbreaks reported in October 2023. Four were due to influenza-like illness/acute respiratory infection and six were due to COVID-19. All 10 outbreaks were in long term care facilities.

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## TABLES

Tables for October are available as Excel files on the [Ngā Kete Intelligence Hub](#).