

## 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 10 August 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

#### Cryptosporidiosis

There were 38 cases of cryptosporidiosis notified in July 2023, compared with 22 cases for the same month in 2022. The cases were geographically dispersed. Four cases were hospitalised. Of the cases where risk factor information was recorded, half (9/18) had contact with farm animals.

#### Invasive pneumococcal disease

There were 102 cases (101 confirmed and 1 under investigation) of invasive pneumococcal disease notified in July 2023, compared with 77 for the same month in 2022. Nine (8.9%) confirmed cases were aged under 5 years, 60 (59.4%) were aged 5–64 years, and 32 (31.7%) were aged 65 years and over. A serotype was identified in 95 (94.1%) cases; the most common serotype was 19A (34.7%, 33 cases). There were three cases of 19A in children aged under 5 years: two cases were age-appropriately vaccinated and the other was partially vaccinated. From 1 December 2022 the funded vaccine was [changed from PCV10 to PCV13](#), which gives additional protection against serotypes 3, 6A and 19A.

#### Rheumatic fever

There were 26 cases of rheumatic fever (13 confirmed, 4 probable, 8 suspect and 1 under investigation) notified in July 2023, compared with seven for the same month in 2022. Twenty-two cases were initial episodes and four were recurrent episodes. Half (13) of the cases were reported from Counties Manukau. Fourteen cases were aged 5–14 years, four were 15–19 years and eight were aged 20 years and over. The majority (24/25 cases) were Māori or Pacific. For the year to date, there have been 119 notifications of rheumatic fever, which is higher than for the same period in 2019–2022.

#### Shigellosis

There were 16 confirmed cases of shigellosis notified in July 2023, compared with five for the same month in 2022. Three cases were hospitalised. All 16 cases had information on overseas travel recorded and 12 were overseas during the incubation period. The countries most commonly visited were Indonesia (3), Fiji (2) and Samoa (2). Of the four cases with no overseas travel, three reported contact with other symptomatic people and no risk factors were identified for one case.

## Zika virus

A confirmed case of Zika virus infection was notified in July 2023. This is the first case of Zika virus infection reported in New Zealand since November 2019. The case was aged 50–59 years and had travelled to Thailand during the incubation period.

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# OUTBREAKS

## Group A streptococcal infection

An outbreak of group A streptococcal (GAS) pharyngitis was reported in July 2023. The outbreak was in a school with a roll of 232 students in years 0-13. Sixty throat swabs were taken from symptomatic students and 52 were found to be positive for GAS.

## Respiratory illness

There were five respiratory illness outbreaks reported in July 2023 (three were due to acute respiratory illness and two influenza-like illness). A pathogen was not identified for any of the outbreaks. Three outbreaks were in childcare centres and two were in long term care facilities.

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# TABLES

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