

## CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 1  
32 Oxford Terrace  
Christchurch Central  
**CHRISTCHURCH 8011**

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4160  
Fax: 0064 3 364 4165  
[carolyn.gullery@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:carolyn.gullery@cdhb.health.nz)

10 April 2019

Anna-Lisa Coomber

**Email:** [fyi-request-9850-89fafa29@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-9850-89fafa29@requests.fyi.org.nz);

Dear Anna-Lisa

### RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10065

I refer to your email dated 13 March 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB regarding Measles cases, age group and MMR Immunisation status. Specifically:

- **Please provide me with information regarding the latest measles outbreak in Canterbury (March 2019) how many individuals contracted the illness, out of this how many were vaccinated fully (2 does of MMR) and how many were partially vaccinated (1 dose MMR) and also age bracket of individuals**

We are declining your request under Section 18(g) of the Official Information Act, on the basis that we do not hold the information requested.

However you can access information on the NZ Ministry of Health website;

<https://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/conditions-and-treatments/diseases-and-illnesses/measles>.

Please find attached as **Appendix 1** the latest ESR Measles Report dated 3 April 2019. (These updated reports can be found on the Ministry of Health website).

If you disagree with our decision you may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek an investigation and review of our decision from the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz); or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Canterbury DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely



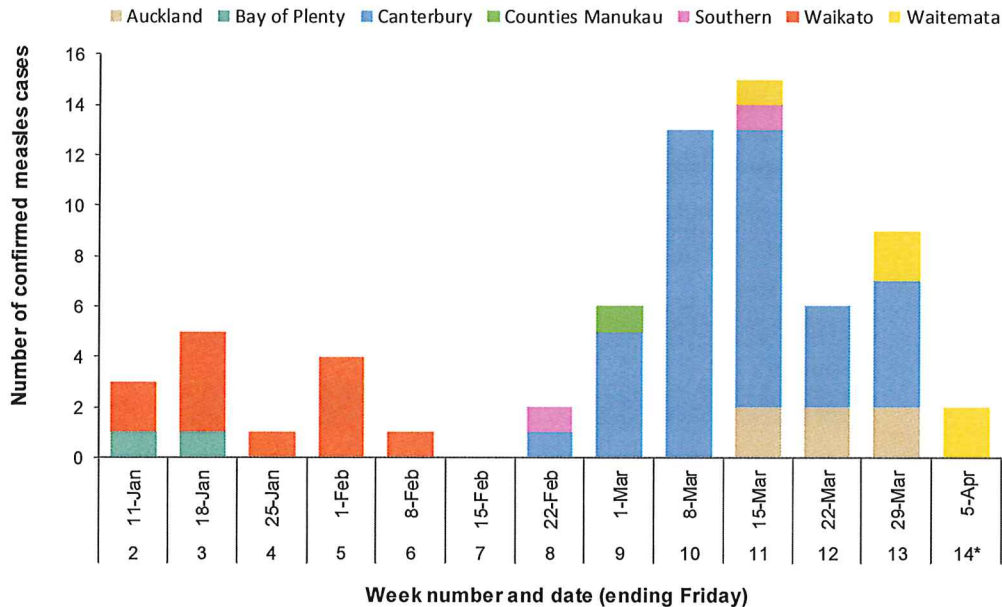
Carolyn Gullery  
**Executive Director**  
**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**

This report summarises confirmed measles notifications for the current week (30 March–5 April 2019) and cumulative cases for 2019. The case classification used in this report is specified on the last page.

Information is based on data recorded on EpiSurv by public health service staff as at 1400hrs, 3 April 2019. Changes made to EpiSurv data after this date will not be reflected in this report. The results presented may be updated and should be regarded as provisional.

Figure 1 and Tables 1–4 show data for 2019. Figure 2 shows historical notifications of confirmed cases from 2009 to the current week in 2019.

**Figure 1. Number of confirmed measles notifications by week and district health board, 2 January to 3 April 2019**



\*provisional, as surveillance week incomplete

**Table 1. Age distribution of confirmed measles cases for week 14/2019 and cumulative number of cases and hospitalisations for 2019**

Age group (years)	30 March–3 April 2019	Cumulative total 2019	Number of hospitalisations 2019
<15 months	1	9	6
15 months - 3 years	1	4	3
4-9 years	0	1	0
10-19 years	0	20	3
20-29 years	0	15	3
30-49 years	0	16	4
50+	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>21</b>

**Table 2. Number of confirmed measles cases for week 14/2019 and cumulative number of cases and hospitalisations for 2019 by ethnic group**

Ethnic group (prioritised)	30 March–3 April 2019	Cumulative total 2019	Number of hospitalisations 2019
Māori	0	7	3
Pacific peoples	2	6	5
Asian	0	6	2
MELAA <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0
European or Other	0	46	11
Unknown	0	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>21</b>

<sup>1</sup>Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

**Table 3. Number of confirmed measles cases for week 14/2019 and cumulative number of cases for 2019 by district health board**

District health board	30 March–3 April 2019	Cumulative total 2019
Waitemata	2	5
Auckland	0	6
Counties Manukau	0	1
Waikato	0	12
Bay of Plenty	0	2
Canterbury	0	39
Southern	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>67</b>

**Table 4. Immunisation status\* of confirmed cases of measles recorded in EpiSurv reported 1 January to 3 April 2019**

Age group (years)	Not vaccinated <sup>1</sup>	Partially vaccinated <sup>3</sup>	Fully vaccinated <sup>4</sup>	Total number of cases
<15 months	9	0	0	9
15 months - 3 years	3	0	1	4
4-9 years	1	0	0	1
10-19 years	19	0	1	20
20-29 years	8	2	5	15
30-49 years	10	6	0	16
50+	2	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>67</b>

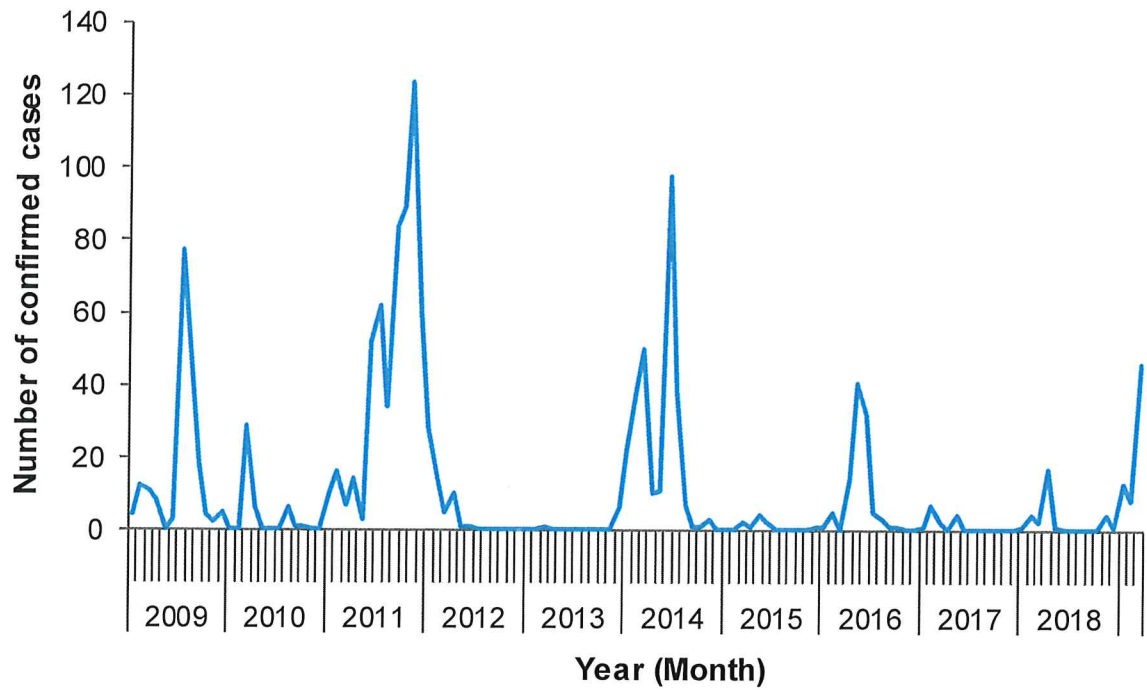
\*Note: Immunisation status in EpiSurv is based on either documentation or patient/caregiver recall.

<sup>1</sup> **Not vaccinated:** A person who was reported not to have received any doses of vaccine, or a person who was reported to have received one dose of vaccine within 14 days of the onset of disease, or a person recorded as unknown.

<sup>3</sup> **Partially vaccinated:** A person aged over 4 years who was reported to have received one dose of vaccine.

<sup>4</sup> **Fully vaccinated:** A child aged between 12 months and 4 years who was reported to have received one dose of vaccine or a person aged over 4 years who was reported to have received two doses of vaccine.

Figure 2. Number of measles notifications by month reported, 1 January 2009 to 3 April 2019



## Case classification for measles notification in New Zealand

<b>Confirmed</b>	A clinically compatible illness that is laboratory-confirmed or epidemiologically-linked to a confirmed case.
<b>Probable</b>	A clinically compatible illness.
<b>Under investigation</b>	A case that has been notified, but information is not yet available to classify it as probable or confirmed.

**Note:** Any notifications that are found to be due to a vaccine strain are considered not to be measles cases and are removed from the analysis.

### Clinical description

An illness characterised by **all** of the following:

1. generalised maculopapular rash, starting on the head and neck
2. fever (at least 38°C if measured) present at the time of rash onset
3. cough or coryza or conjunctivitis or Koplik's spots present at the time of rash onset.

### Laboratory test for diagnosis

If the case **received a vaccine** containing the measles virus in the 6 weeks prior to symptom onset then **laboratory confirmation requires**:

- evidence of infection with a wild-type virus strain obtained through genetic characterisation.

If the case **did not receive a vaccine** containing the measles virus in the 6 weeks prior to symptom onset, then **laboratory confirmation requires** at least one of the following:

- detection of IgM antibody specific to the virus
- IgG seroconversion or a significant rise (four-fold or greater) in antibody level for the virus between paired sera tested in parallel where the convalescent serum was collected 10 to 14 days after the acute serum
- isolation of measles virus by culture
- detection of measles virus nucleic acid.

See: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/communicable-disease-control-manual/measles>