

Public Health Services - measles
Proactive release: 24 July 2019

12 July 2019

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act (1982) Request

I write in response to your Official Information Act request, received by us on 02 July 2019. You requested the following information:

- 1) The number of hospital admissions in the past 24 months at Middlemore Hospital, as a direct result of measles?**
- 2) Of those admissions, how many were vaccinated persons prior to admission, and how many were not vaccinated prior to being admitted.**

For context, CM Health provides health services to a population of over 569,000 people residing in the Counties Manukau district, of which there are more than 123,500 children, and a diverse migrant community.

We have accessed the clinical coding data of hospital admission/ discharge records from 01 January 2017 to 02 July 2019, noting that some very recent admissions may still have coding to be completed. This data will not identify those cases only seen in the Emergency Department, or by our community services.

We note that measles is a notifiable disease, and all cases are reported to the Auckland Regional Public Health Service (ARPHS), who are providing weekly updates during the current Measles Outbreak on the number of confirmed cases in the Auckland region, not all of which will require a hospital admission.

We have used ICD-11 codes for a primary diagnosis under *B05 – Measles* to identify cases.

There have been 15 discharges coded to Measles, for 14 individuals (that is, 1 case was readmitted).

- All of these discharges have occurred during 2019.

- Nine of the 14 cases were aged less than 4 years old, and would not have completed full vaccination as per the Immunisation Schedule. Of that nine, four cases were less than a year old, and would have had no vaccinations.
- There have been no admissions for children aged 5-20 years.
- For the other five admissions, all were adults (four aged in their 20's, 1 aged 40).

Determining individual vaccination status, and interpreting that information is part of the public health response to any measles cases. That information is held by Auckland Regional Public Health Service. The National Immunisation Register (NIR) has been in place since 2004, and may not capture the vaccination status of these adults.

I trust this information satisfactorily answers your query. More information about measles and the immunisation programme to address the current outbreak is available on the Ministry of Health's website.

If you are not satisfied with this response you are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau DHB website.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fepulea'i Margie Apa', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health