

Medical Officer of Health
Public Health
ADVICE

Inside

- ▶ Heart Foundation smoking cessation course
- ▶ Influenza pandemic news

Public Health Report

June 2006

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Smokefree / Auahi Kore health promotion

26% of Hawke's Bay residents smoke. This proportion varies by ethnicity - 53% of Maori and 23% of non-Maori smoke. The annual national school smoking prevalence survey shows that the smoking rate at year 10 has declined since 1995. However, Hawke's Bay students had the second highest district rate in New Zealand in 2005 (fifth highest in 2004).

2005 ASH Year 10 survey	Number of participants (n) (2005)	% Smoke \geq monthly ('05)	% Smoke Daily ('05)	% Never Smoke ('05)	2004 Ranking	2005 Ranking
New Zealand	32,761	16.8	9	49.4		
Hawke's Bay	1,227	22.5	11.4	39.8	17	20

The public health unit aims to:

- Increase the awareness and support of the smokefree kaupapa so it becomes the accepted norm
- Reduce the exposure to second-hand smoke and smoking behaviour
- Promote smoking cessation
- Reduce smoking initiation

We are involved in:

- Fostering the development of smokefree policies in workplaces, marae, community events and settings.
- Encouraging smokefree parks and sports fields, homes and cars
- Promoting smokefree events
- Implementing smokefree legislation
- Education about smoking cessation
- Supporting hospitalised smokers who choose to quit
- Supporting the hospital smokefree policy.

Our quit smoking service welcomes enquiries on 06 878 8109

Yvonne Stirling-Mohi ext 2472, Rangi Barcham ext 2473, Nigal McRoberts ext 2474

Heart Foundation smoking cessation course to be held in Napier

Fully funded workshop training in smoking cessation guidelines is available from smoking cessation specialist, Denise Barlow. To book, contact Jenny Ansley 03 366 2112; jennya@nhf.org.nz.

By completing stages 1 to 3 of the cessation practitioner training programme you can:

- More effectively support a smoker through the process of quitting
- Fulfil the training criteria required to become an exchange card provider for the subsidised nicotine patches and gum programme.

Pre-course reading and pre-course questionnaire to be completed for stages 1 and 2:

Stage 1 Thursday, 28 September 2006, 9am - 4pm

Stage 2 Friday, 29 September 2006, 9am - 4pm

Stage 3 Wednesday, 27 September 2006, 9am - 4pm

Venue Library Seminar Room, 1st floor Library Building, Station St, Napier

Influenza pandemic news

Assessing a suspect case of avian influenza

If you have a case of suspect avian influenza, the first step is to determine the likelihood that the patient has been exposed to H5N1 virus. Hawke's Bay District Health Board website has:

- The case definition for H5N1 influenza
- Countries which have reported avian H5N1 outbreaks
- Countries which have reported human H5N1 cases

See <http://www.hawkesbaydhb.govt.nz>. Click 'Public Health Alerts'.

The NZ primary health care online influenza training course

This course is produced by IMAC, RNZGP and the Ministry of Health. It can be found at <http://www.guidetools.com/influenza/index.html>

Hawke's Bay planning

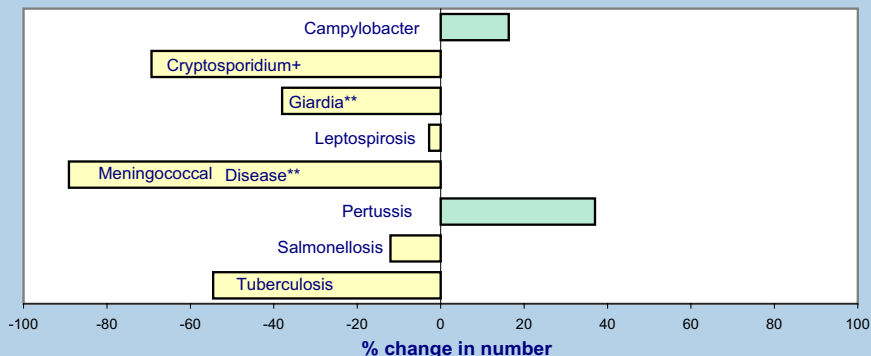
A large number of workstreams have completed plans for many aspects of a pandemic response. Plans on primary care and community assessment centres are being written with the help of representatives from general practitioners, practice nurses and practice management. These plans will be posted in July on HBDHB's website <http://www.hawkesbaydhb.govt.nz/>. Search using key word "pandemic". For further information phone HBDHB's emergency response advisor Sandra Bee on 06 878 8109.

Commentary on disease surveillance summaries

The epidemic of **pertussis** continues. Since June 2004 the Hawke's Bay rate has been lower than that for New Zealand . Notifications for **meningococcal disease** continue to decline.

Disease surveillance summaries

Selected Hawke's Bay disease notifications for December 2005 to May 2006 compared to the average for the same period during 2000-2004



Note: +denotes $p < 0.001$ **denotes $p < 0.05$

Selected notifications June 2005 to May 2006

Disease	Hawke's Bay		New Zealand	
	Cases	rate*	Cases	rate*
Campylobacter	533	356.8	15553	379.4
Cryptosporidiosis	46	30.8	820	20.0
Giardia	58	38.8	1208	29.5
Hepatitis A	0	0.0	114	2.8
Hepatitis B	1	0.7	67	1.6
Lead Absorption	3	2.0	81	2.0
Leptospirosis	16	10.7	90	2.2
Meningococcal Disease	7	4.7	186	4.5
Paratyphoid	1	0.7	20	0.5
Pertussis	52	34.8	1926	47.0
Rheumatic Fever	8	5.4	103	2.5
Salmonellosis	72	48.2	1484	36.2
Shigella	3	2.0	182	4.4
Tuberculosis	8	5.4	311	7.6
Typhoid Fever	0	0.0	27	0.7
VTEC/STEC Infection	4	2.7	96	2.3
Yersiniosis	11	7.4	428	10.4

* Annualised crude rate per 100,000 population calculated from 2005 estimated resident populations.

Immunisation issues

Coming events

To register, contact Marg Dalton, immunisation coordinator, 06 834 1815 ext 4228

- **Update for authorised vaccinators.** Wednesday 16 August 2006, 1730 - 1930.
- **IMAC Vision for vaccines symposium.** Friday 8 and Saturday 9 September 2006. Auckland. The symposium will introduce vaccines against the following diseases: Cervical cancer, varicella, rotavirus, meningococcal disease and pneumococcal disease.

Outreach for the national immunisation programme

A contract for outreach services for Hawke's Bay has been given to Te Kupenga Hauora-Ahuriri . A letter informing all practices how to refer to outreach will be sent out later in the month.

Audit for Hawke's Bay immunisation coverage rate

The second audit has shown improvements in some practices - well done to those who worked hard with their recalls and vaccinated their overdue children. However the provisional Hawke's Bay coverage rate is similar to the first audit six months ago, and well short of the Ministry of Health's target of 95% fully vaccinated at two years of age. This could be improved by practices updating immunisation for all new enrolments to the practice.

Reminders of the importance of immunisation

An unimmunised 10 year old Cambridge girl recently developed tetanus after scraping her leg on a concrete wall.

During the past month's celebration of 50 years of polio vaccination in New Zealand some very disturbing stories have been told by people who contracted polio and have had disabilities and pain ever since, especially from post-polio syndrome. Thank-you to those who shared their stories.

Recent measles outbreaks in Germany, Fiji and Australia are a warning to travellers, parents and health professionals.

Measles testing

Measles is rare in New Zealand at present and as we progress towards elimination, proof of every case is important. If you suspect a patient has measles, please notify the public health unit and request blood for serology and virus testing and a nasopharyngeal swab for virus testing and genotyping.