

Appendix 2



Public Health
England

PHE NW Health Protection Indicative Report

Manchester City Council Health Protection

Public Health Task & Finish Group (Manchester Health Scrutiny Committee)

Meeting 26th October 2018

International

Incidents of interest

Ebola virus disease, Democratic Republic of Congo

- The outbreak in eastern DRC continues in North-Kivu and Ituri provinces, eastern DRC
- As of 1 October, there had been a total of 129 confirmed and 32 probable cases across eight health zones in the two affected provinces
- Since 08 August, over 13,000 people have been vaccinated

Public Health England provide the group with a detailed PDF file on international incidents of interest.

National

3 monkeypox cases diagnosed in England

3 cases of monkeypox diagnosed in the UK in September. Two cases had recently travelled back to the UK from Nigeria (1 case flying in to the UK on 4th September). There was no UK epidemiological link identified between these two cases. The third was a healthcare worker involved in the care of one of the primary cases. PHE guidance [Monkeypox: information for primary care](#) was disseminated to GPs through local arrangements. NHSE cascaded relevant information to Acute Trusts through Regional Emergency Planning leads. A briefing note was shared widely. Contact tracing and passive / active surveillance was undertaken (for 21 days after exposure).

Case of MERS-CoV in England

Confirmed case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) initially admitted to hospital in Leeds and transferred to the Royal Liverpool Hospital. The case had travelled from Saudi Arabia and flew in to the UK on 16th August 2018 whilst symptomatic. Contact tracing and active / passive surveillance undertaken (for 14 days after exposure).

[Note: The PHE North West Health Protection team provide the Port Medical Officer (PMO) function for Manchester Airport. The PMO is primarily a public health function and PHE North West leads on health protection assessment and advice where any incident requires the PMO role to be instigated.]

Measles

A national measles incident (standard response) was declared on 2nd May 2018 and led by the National Infection Service. From the 1st January to 13th September 2018 there were 876 laboratory confirmed measles cases but the epidemiology supports that this outbreak is likely coming to an end. Anyone who has not received 2 doses of MMR vaccine is at risk, but young people in environments with close mixing such as festivals are more at risk, as well as unvaccinated people travelling to Romania and Italy, where there are currently large

outbreaks. Anyone planning to travel to Europe should check NaTHNaC travel health advice.

Product recalls in a multi-country outbreak of listeriosis associated with frozen sweetcorn

ECDC reported a European outbreak of *Listeria* linked to frozen sweetcorn <https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/news-events/listeria-monocytogenes-outbreak-47-cases-including-9-deaths>. To reduce the risk of *L. monocytogenes* infection from frozen corn, consumers should adequately heat frozen vegetables before eating them or adding them to salads or any other ready to eat foods. This advice applies especially to consumers at the highest risk of contracting listeriosis – such as the elderly, pregnant women, new-borns and adults with weakened immune systems.

Restrictions on use of Varicella Zoster Immunoglobulin (VZIG) during supply shortage

Due to a current shortage of VZIG, in order to retain stock for the most vulnerable groups, PHE recommends restrictions on VZIG. The restrictions have now been extended to immunosuppressed individuals. Susceptible individuals should now receive either aciclovir or valaciclovir in the event of a significant exposure, unless there is a specific contraindication to these oral antiviral agents, when VZIG will still be required. These updated restrictions on the use of VZIG are available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/varicella-zoster-immunoglobulin>

Hepatitis B vaccine supplies have improved - vaccine now available for all indications

In view of overall improvement in UK supply, PHE and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) have agreed to accelerate the phased re-introduction of vaccine outlined in the recovery plan, so that vaccine is now available for all priority groups 1 to 4 (as defined in the temporary recommendations). The updated guidance is published at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-vaccine-recommendations-during-supply-constraints>

Updated Guidance on use of Tetanus Specific Immunoglobulin (TIG) for management of tetanus prone wounds during current supply shortage

Due to a shortage of TIG, interim guidelines, which also include revised definitions for tetanus prone wounds, are now published at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tetanus-immunoglobulin-recommendations-on-treatment-and-prophylaxis>

Revised guidance for rabies pre-exposure prophylaxis and post-exposure treatment

New guidance can be found via <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rabies-post-exposure-prophylaxis-management-guidelines>

North West/Greater Manchester

Surveillance of notifiable diseases

Details not included in this version of the report but information provided to the Manchester Health Protection Group includes:

- Latest Surveillance report (updated weekly report showing numbers of cases and rates of infectious diseases by GM Local Authority (with GM-wide and NW data) including for:
- Latest Surveillance commentary (further investigation and explanation of the data in the above report provided)

Key situations

Brief outline given of key situations or outbreaks across Greater Manchester, for example:

- **Hepatitis A in a Manchester restaurant**

Outbreak of hepatitis A amongst staff working at a large Manchester restaurant. Vaccination sessions offered in August. Ongoing enhanced surveillance for new cases.

- **Hepatitis A amongst people who inject drugs who are rough sleeping in 2 GM Local Authorities**

The outbreak of Hepatitis A in the rough sleeping homeless population in X LA amongst people who inject drugs has been declared over by the outbreak control team. The risk assessment will be reviewed should new cases arise. There were six cases identified since March 2018 potentially linked with this outbreak. The outbreak in a similar population in X LA remains on-going, with six potentially linked cases to date.

New situations in Manchester (during period of time from previous meeting)

Examples include:

X outbreaks of norovirus in care homes

X outbreaks of acute respiratory illness in a care home (microbiological results provided where available)

X hepatitis A situations requiring mass vaccination response: brief details provided

TB situation involving screening in a primary school: brief details provided

Large fire / chemical issue: brief details provided

X cases of measles linked by workplace in Manchester