

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT

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Regional Public Health
Better Health For The Greater Wellington Region



To:	After-Hours Centres and Emergency Departments in the greater Wellington and Wairarapa regions
From:	Jill McKenzie, Medical Officer of Health
Date:	19 August 2016
Title:	Public Health Alert: Measles in Auckland Traveller

Please distribute the following information to relevant staff in your organisation.

If you would like to receive this by email please advise RPH of your email on rph@huttvalleydhb.org.nz.
All public health alerts are available at www.rph.org.nz (health professionals – public health alerts)

POTENTIAL MEASLES CONTACTS ACROSS NEW ZEALAND

The Ministry of Health has asked us to advise you of the current situation of the potential for travellers to have been exposed to measles in Auckland.

EXPOSURE AT K ROAD CITY TRAVELLERS HOSTEL IN AUCKLAND 8 TO 13 AUGUST

The Auckland Regional Public Health Service has been notified of a new importation of measles in an unimmunised traveller returning from Indonesia and Malaysia. The case was infectious from 8/8/2016 until 17/8/2016. The case was resident at the above backpackers hostel in Auckland for 5 days (8/8/2016 - 13/8/2016) during the infectious period. Auckland Regional Public Health Service has identified 26 contacts exposed there, with five of these already having travelled to other areas in NZ, and two already having left New Zealand. Auckland Regional Public Health Service have passed the details of the five contacts who have travelled nationally to the relevant Public Health Units (Southland/Otago, Bay of Plenty, Taranaki and Waikato), but there is the potential for more contacts/further travel so it would be prudent to be alert for cases across the country.

Those who remained at the backpackers have been quarantined in place until immunity is proven, but it is already apparent that a number will not be immune and secondary cases are expected. The Auckland Regional Public Health Service is working closely with the hostel management to identify and contact remaining guests and ex-guests.

Please use this information to inform an exposure history as part of your assessment for potential measles cases. Our previous alert provided the steps to identify and manage a suspected case of measles, and is available on our website www.rph.org.nz under the Health Professionals tab.

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He ture no nga korero katoa kei roto o tenei karere, no reira, kia tupato. Mehemea kaore matau kua e mau. Me whakamohiotia atu ki to Tari, me te mea nana I tonu mai. E Tika Hoki.