

**Fiji Communicable Disease Bulletin .**  
**Issue 2: February 2009**

Table 1 : Fiji Syndromic surveillance

Syndrome	MONTH OF ONSET		
	Jan. 09	Feb. 09	Cumulative 2009
Diarrhoea <sup>1</sup>	632	212	844
Diarrhoea with blood <sup>2</sup>	5	3	8
Influenza-like illness <sup>3</sup>	565	120	705
Acute respiratory infection. <sup>4</sup>	905	200	1105
Acute fever & rash <sup>5</sup>	4	3	7
Acute flaccid paralysis <sup>5</sup>	0	1	1

Notes :

1 Source:

Fiji National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS); reported as "acute gastroenteritis", "enteritis", "gastroenteritis", "infective diarrhoea", "mild gastroenteritis", or "infective enteritis".

2 Source:

NNDSS; reported as "dysentery amoebic & bacillary"

3 Source:

NNDSS; reported as "influenza", or "influenza-like illness".

4 Source:

NNDSS; reported as " pneumonia + ARI", "acute respiratory infection", "acute respiratory illness", "upper respiratory tract infection", .

5 Source:

Hospital Based Active Surveillance System (HBAS)

**Fiji NNDSS.Table I**

**Diarrhea** : There was a sharp increase in the number of diarrheal cases reported to the Fiji NNDSS in Jan.09. The highest proportion (51%) was reported within the Nausori area . Approximately 29% of reported cases Jan & Feb are children within the 1-4yr age group.

**ARI** : was also at a high for both months with the most number of cases (249) affecting children aged between 1-4 .

**Typhoid** (not in table) : 37 suspected cases of typhoid were reported of which 25 was documented in the Northern division ( Lekutu, Nabouwalu & Labasa medical areas) .

**Hospital Based Surveillance System (HBAS)**

There were seven clinically suspected AFR cases reported through the HBAS system for the months of January and February .

**MEASLES ALERT!**

3 Cases have been confirmed as at 3rd March 09. Ministry of health have urged all health facilities to be vigilant for further suspected cases. Clinical case definition for measles :is any person with fever, generalized maculopapular rash lasting 3 or more days, cough or coryza or conjunctivitis or koplik spots

**Figure 2. Laboratory Surveillance**

Further updates to previous bulletin issues:

**HIV** : Total number of confirmed cases at Fiji CDC in 2008 is 31. In 2009 there have been 4 cases confirmed in January . February & March figures are pending and will be released after the next meeting of the national committee on AIDs.

**Dengue & Leptospirosis**

The number of requests have increased, particularly in Dengue & Leptospirosis tests. Mataika Hse have recently received additional test kits and is currently processing all pending tests for January 2009 . Furthermore. the use of NS1 test kits enable early detection of antibodies to < 3 days with sensitivity between 77. 9% - 97.4% and specificity between 96. 0% - 99. 6% at 95% CI.

Den-4 serotype has now been confirmed in the Northern division similar to Eastern & Western division in 2008. In addition, most samples indicated secondary infection to Den-2 in the past. Special note is to be taken due to increased susceptibility to DHF with secondary infections of a different subtype.

**Influenza**

Although there were no tests conducted at the main lab .PCR analysis have begun on 10 patient samples with ILI. This is part of the Flu Sentinel surveillance programme to be officially launched on the 2nd April 2009. More details & results will be included within the next quarterly Flu Newsletter due out in April

**L.F corner!**

Lymphatic Filariasis MDA:

MDA deadline is 31st March 2009. and all reports are due in by the 24th April into each divisional offices. Below is the current MDA coverage as at 23rd Feb.09:

Table 3: Fiji MDA coverage as at 4th March 2009

(Source: LF program Mataika Hse)

Division (Population)	Coverage
Western (317,376)	29. 29%
Eastern (39,074)	55. 22%
Central (340,843)	18. 95%
Northern (130,607)	39. 23%

Table 2 : Laboratory confirmed new cases from Fiji Centre for Communicable Disease Control (FCCDC) and divisional laboratories.

Selected Diseases	2009			
	Tests requested Jan & Feb .	Tests performed Jan & Feb .	Positive Jan & Feb	Cumulative 2009
Measles <sup>1</sup>	15	15	3	3
Rubella <sup>1</sup>	15	15	1	1
Dengue Fever <sup>1</sup>	183	91	61	61
Influenza <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0
Leptospirosis <sup>1</sup>	85	14	0	0
HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	44	44	t.b.a	4
Typhoid fever <sup>2</sup>	n.a	n.a	27	27
Cholera <sup>2</sup>	n.a	n.a	0	0

Notes :

N.A : Not available–nil request

Data Source : 1 : FCCDC Laboratory (Mataika House) 2: Divisional Laboratories Labasa & Lautoka Hospital Nb: HIV : As reported in the 1st quarter 2009.

**Dengue in French Polynesia**

As at 20th January 2009 six dengue cases (Den-1) have been confirmed. Furthermore, 2 new Den-4 cases have been documented. Health authorities further state that these 2 cases may have been imported from New Caledonia where a Den-4 outbreak has been declared. .

Source : PACNET

**Dengue in Vanuatu**

31st January 2009 : Vanuatu public health authorities have reported 20 new dengue cases for the month of January. Serotype is yet to be confirmed and no DHF or deaths have been reported.

Source: PACNET

**Cholera in Zimbabwe**

18th February 2009:  
79,613 cholera cases have been reported by the health and child welfare authorities including 3,731 deaths.

Source: <http://www.who.int/csr>

**Human Avian Influenza 2009**

24 February 2009.

Total number of cases documented in 2009 is 13 of which 5 deaths were recorded. Breakdown :

China: 7 cases including 4 deaths

Egypt: 4 cases with 0 deaths

Viet Nam: 2 cases including 1 death

Source: <http://www.who.int/csr>

**Meningococcal epidemic Nigeria**

As at 8th February 2009, Ministry Health in Nigeria have documented 1364 suspected cases of meningococcal diseases. This includes 108 deaths (CFR 7.9%)

Source: <http://www.who.int/csr>

**HBAS in the Pacific Island Region (PIC)**

The table right below shows the number of reported AFR & AFP cases through the HBAS system. Tabulated figures include statistics from: Fiji, Niue, Kiribas, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tuvalu, Samoa & Nauru.

Table 4 : AFR & AFP CASE REPORTING IN PICS			
2007-2009			
Case	2007	2008	2009 (to date )
Acute Fever & Rash (AFR)	34	24	7
Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP)	13	10	1

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