

Introduction

Nauru department of health has initiated production and distribution of monthly communicable diseases bulletin since October 2008 and this bulletin is for the month of February 2009. The data analysis in this bulletin is based on the available information from reporting of signs and symptoms of diseases under notification and lab-confirmation.

Table 1 Syndromic Surveillance Report (February 2009)

Syndrome	District/Location				
	Anabar	Denig	Yaren	Menen	Total
01.Diarrhoea	1	2	1	1	5
02.Diarrhoea with blood	0	0	0	0	0
03.Influenza like illness	1	0	0	0	1
04.Acute Respiratory Infection	0	0	0	0	0
05.Acute Fever and Rash	0	0	0	0	0
06.Acute Flaccid Paralysis	0	0	0	0	0

Syndromic Surveillance Report

In February 2009, 5 diarrhoea cases were reported. The diarrhoea patients were from 4 different districts: 2 from Denig and 1 each from Anabar, Yaren and Menen districts. Two diarrhoea cases were under 5 years and the rest were adults. One influenza like illness case, 10 month old boy, was reported from Anabar district. Apart from that other diseases under surveillance were not reported during February 2009.

Laboratory Report

Table 2 depicted the numbers of laboratory tests requested during February 2009. One positive test for Hepatitis B was reported and other tests requested and tested in Nauru laboratory were reported as negative. But the results from the reference lab

Table 2 Nauru Laboratory Report (February 2009)

	Number of tests requested	Number positive (Nauru lab)	No. sent to reference lab (QML)	No. confirmed by reference lab(QML)
Chlamydia	0	0	34	0
Syphilis	61	0	0	0
Gonorrhoea	0	0	34	0
Trichomonas	0	0	0	0
HIV	60	0	0	0
Hepatitis B	60	1	0	0
Dengue	0	0	0	0
Influenza	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0
Rubella	0	0	0	0
Filariasis	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0

Comments

There were some challenges in data collection and there might have been other notifiable diseases which were undetected and underreported. The diarrhoea cases are still common in Nauru but there were no serious and bloody diarrhoea cases reported. Nauru public health department is implementing the prevention and control measures like regular water testing, environmental sanitation and personal hygiene promotion

Furthermore, Nauru public health department has been strengthening school health program since 2007 and hygienic promotion is also one of the key activities.

No deaths from the notifiable disease were reported in Feb 2009. All the health care personnel from Nauru public health department and RON hospital are always encouraged to immediately notify the diseases under notification in order to start proper investigation and timely intervention.

News

Nauru public health department has been initiated publishing quarterly public health news letter since mid 2008. In its issue 3, communicable diseases prevention and control are of main topics. This issue highlights the personnel hygiene, diarrhoea, scabies, TB, leprosy and STI/HIV prevention and control. In addition, communicable diseases awareness, prevention and control health message video clips have been broadcasted regularly from Nauru television and radio since December 2008.

Acknowledgement

We would like to express our sincere thanks to those who had reported the information in timely manner.