



Communique

Security	Public
Distribution	Widespread distribution - metropolitan, regional, public
Target audience	All stakeholders

Incident Name: Targeted Regional WA MenW Outbreak Response

Communique. 9 (covers period 04.12.2017 - 10.12.2017). **New information in bold, blue font.**

Day, date and time: Friday, 15 December 2017

This communique has been authorised by: Dr Paul Armstrong

Background

- Invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) due to meningococcal serogroup W (MenW) has risen rapidly across Australia since 2014.
- A statewide MenACWY vaccination program for 15-19 year olds commenced in April 2017.
- An outbreak of MenW in central Australia started in July 2017. Aboriginal people living in communities across a broad area in the Central Australia, Barkly, and Katherine regions of the Northern Territory (NT) and the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands of South Australia (SA) have been affected. There have been **four** related cases reported in WA and two in Queensland.
- Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccination programs have been introduced in NT, the APY Lands of SA, WA and Queensland in response to this outbreak.
- In Stage 1 of WA’s response, free MenACWY vaccination is being offered to all people aged 2 months and over living in Aboriginal communities that have strong cultural links with central Australian communities affected by the outbreak, i.e. the Ngaanyatjarra Lands and Tjuntjuntjara (Goldfields); Balgo, Bililuna, Kundat Jaru (Ringer Soak) and Mulan (Kimberley); and Punmu, Kunawarritji, Parnngurr (Cotton Creek), and Jigalong (Pilbara). The estimated target population in Stage 1 is 3,300 people and will extend from 18 October to 17 December.
- In accordance with the *Emergency Response Plan for Communicable Disease Incidents of National Significance* (CDPlan), on 2 November 2017, the Australian Chief Medical Officer declared the MenW outbreak in Indigenous people in remote Central Australian communities and other communities linked through culture and mobility a ‘Communicable Disease Incident of National Significance’ (CDINS).
- Following a fatal case of MenW in an Aboriginal infant from the Goldfields in late November 2017, which brought to four the number of MenW cases in the Goldfields in 2017, ‘Stage 2’ of the targeted vaccination program has seen it expand to several additional towns and Aboriginal communities in the Goldfields and Midwest. In addition to the 3,500 people targeted in Stage 1, around **4,400** people are being targeted in Stage 2, which started on 28 November 2017 and will continue until 28 February 2018.

Current situation

Cases linked to the central Australia outbreak (NT, SA, WA, Qld)

- **Total number of cases: 33**
- **Total number of deaths: 1**

WA cases linked to the central Australia outbreak

- **Total number of cases: 4**
- **Total number of deaths: 1**

Other:

- **In the week beginning 4 December 2017, there were two new cases in WA, both in Aboriginal infants – one in Midwest and the other in the Goldfields.**
- **The Midwest community of Yalgoo has been added to the list of communities targeted in Stage 2 of the program, owing to its close cultural links to Cue where a case was recently reported.**
- Information on the *Remote WA free meningococcal vaccine* webpage (http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/N_R/Remote-WA-free-meningococcal-vaccine), including *FAQs* and *Alert for clinicians* has been updated accordingly.

Stage 1 of the targeted program: summary of MenACWY vaccine doses administered and estimated vaccination coverage (%), data extracted on 13.12.2017

	Goldfields		Kimberley		Pilbara		Total	
	2-11 months	12 months and over	2-11 months	12 months and over	2-11 months	12 months and over	2-11 months	12 months and over
Vaccine doses administered before 16.10.2017 ¹	0	82	0	71	0	27	0	180
Vaccine doses administered, 23.10.2017 onwards	24	1,685	26	815	7	580	57	3,080
Total vaccine doses administered to date	1,791		912		614		3,317	
Total population ²	1,769		1011		714		3,494	
Estimated coverage*	101%		90%		86%		95%	

* May be >100% because >1 dose is required for children <12months of age

Stage 2 of the targeted program - Summary of MenACWY vaccine doses administered and estimated vaccination coverage (%), data extracted on 04.12.2017

	Goldfields		Midwest		Total	
	2-11 months	12 months and over	2-11 months	12 months and over	2-11 months	12 months and over
Vaccine doses administered before 27.11.2017 ¹	638		49		687	
Vaccine doses administered, 27.11.2017 onwards	21	674	12	150	33	824
Total vaccine doses administered to date	1333		162		857	
Total population to be vaccinated	3,247		1,190		4,437	
Estimated coverage	41%		18%		35%	

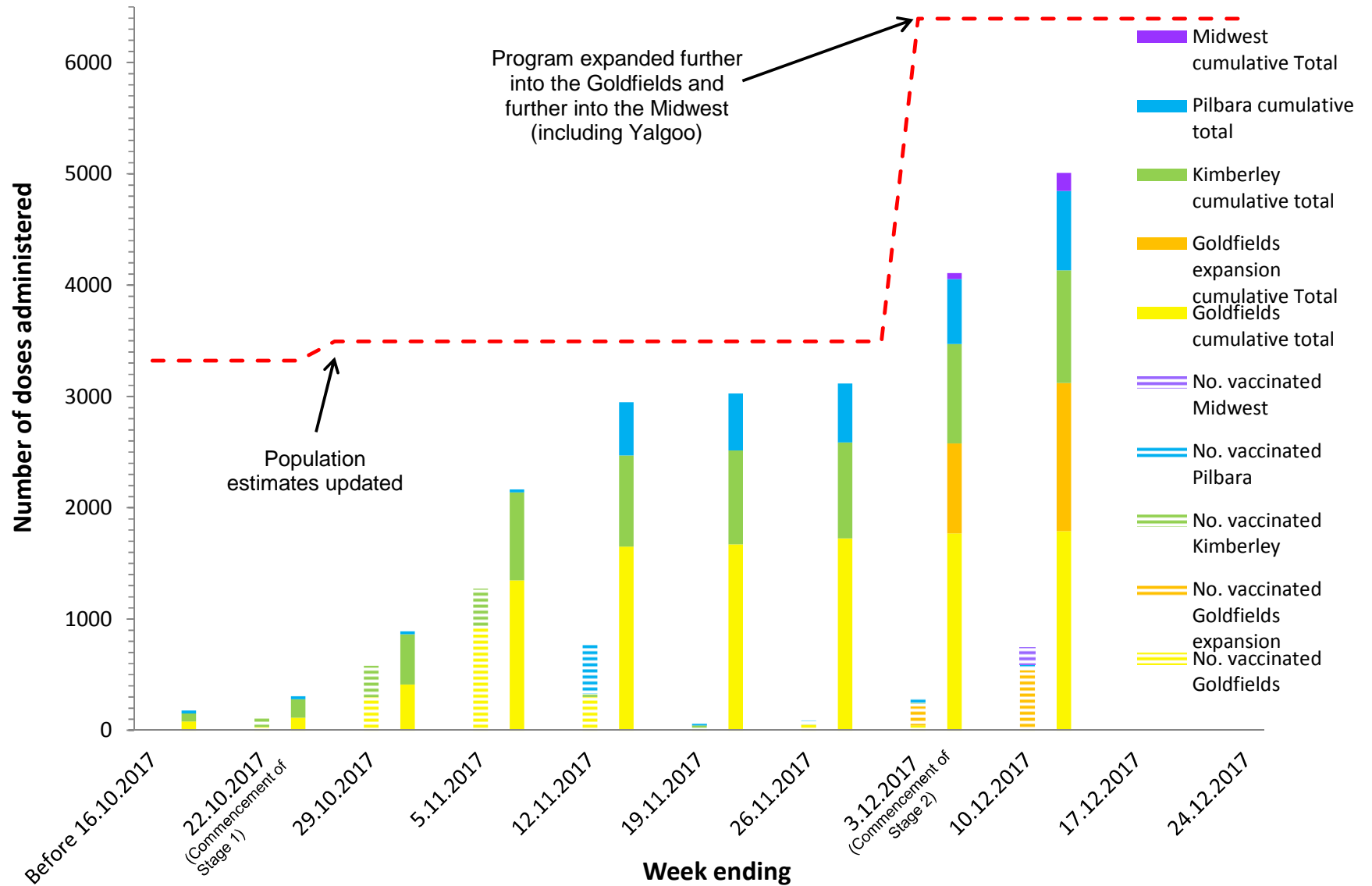
NB: Total population to be vaccinated for expansion of program is: 2 months to 19 years Aboriginal residents and 2months to 19 years non Aboriginal residents if non Aboriginal people make up less than 50% of total population of the community/town.

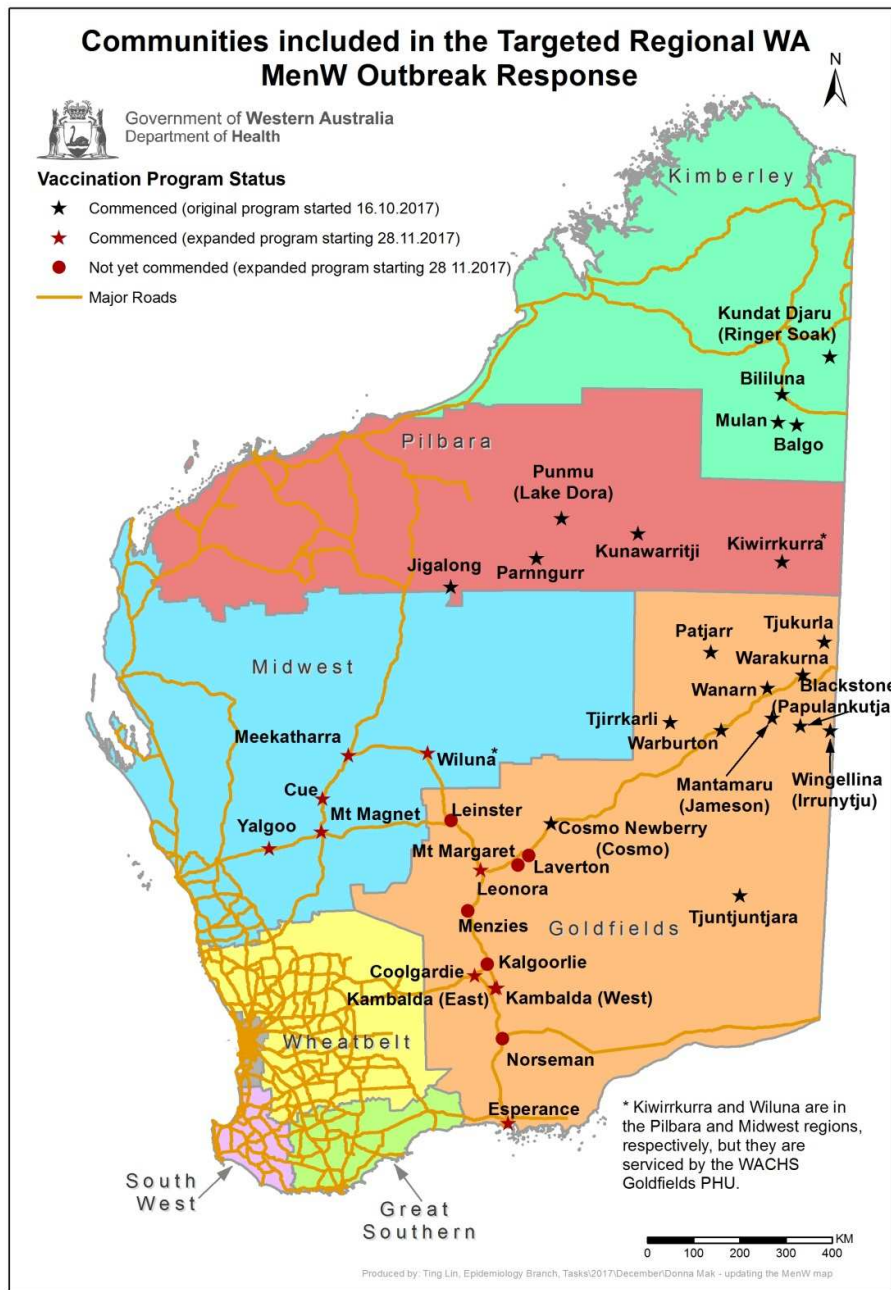
1. The majority of these figures represent those who have received vaccine as part of the state-wide MenACWY vaccination program for 15-19 year olds that commenced in April 2017.

2. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016 census.

Please note: Regional population estimates are based on 2016 census, however, populations will vary due to significant movement of people. Vaccination coverage should consider local population estimates at time of vaccination.

Weekly and cumulative total of number of Men ACWY vaccine doses administered, by region and week





Further communiques

- The next communique will be issued on **22.12.2017**.

WebEOC Incident Name: 20171012 Targeted Regional WA MenW Outbreak Response

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