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Communicable Diseases Report

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January- December 2011.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On behalf of the staff of the Epidemiology Unit, I will like to thank all the Nurses, District Medical Officers, Private Practitioners and all other Health Personnel for their continued support in submitting Communicable Disease data on an ongoing basis.

Your input in this venture is very vital to the health system of Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique.

You are helping us at the Epi-Unit to have a close look at the trends of diseases in our country so that prevention and control measures can be implemented and the Ministry of health can plan its programmes effectively.

Special thanks to Dr. Marjoris Mengana González, Epidemiologist, and other members of staff of the Epi-Unit for their contribution to the newsletter. I am anticipating your continued support as we work together as a team.

Sincerely yours

Agnes Banfield

Public Health Nurse/Surveillance Officer.

Co-ordinator of the Epidemiology Newsletter.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORT YEAR IN REVIEW 2011

DISEASES OF THE EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION

Measles:

One (1) suspected case of fever and rash was reported for the year 2011. Two (2) suspected cases were reported for 2010, one (1) case for 2009 and two (2) suspected cases in 2008.

There are no confirmed cases of measles for either period.

Pertussis:

There were no reported cases of this disease for the year 2011.

One (1) confirmed case was reported in the six year old male age group for 2010 in the Parish of St. George's.

Health care workers are reminded to administer immunization boosters to all children to prevent the re-occurrence of this disease.

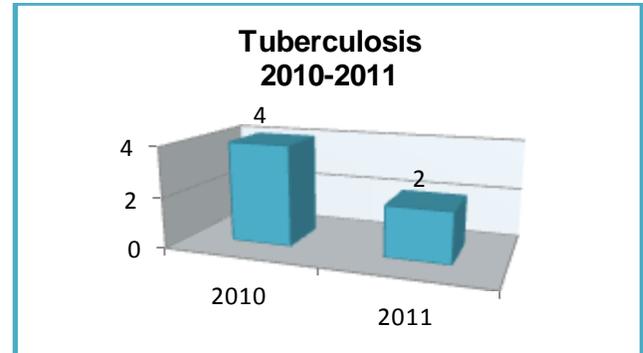
Meningitis:

For the year 2011, two (2) confirm cases of Unspecified Meningitis were reported. Two (2) confirm cases were also reported for 2010 - one (1) case of Meningococcal Meningitis, and one (1) case of Unspecified Meningitis.

Tuberculosis:

There were two (2) confirmed cases of Tuberculosis reported for the period 2011. This showed a decrease when compared to four (4) cases in 2010. All cases were treated. Contact tracing was done by the Community Health Nurses.

Figure 1: *Number of Tuberculosis cases for 2010-2011.*



OTHER DISEASES OF CARIBBEAN INTERESTS

Acute Respiratory Infection <5:

Four thousand one hundred and ninety six (4196) cases of this infection were reported for the year 2011. This showed a decrease in the number of cases when compared to five thousand and thirty eight (5038) cases for 2010. The year 2009 showed a further decrease of three thousand four hundred and ninety seven (3497) cases.

Acute Respiratory Infection >5:

There has been an increase in the number of reported cases of acute respiratory infection in the >5 when compared to the <5. Five thousand eight hundred and sixty eight (5868) cases were reported in the >5, compared to four thousand one hundred and ninety six (4196) cases in the <5. For the year 2009, four thousand seven hundred and ninety five (4795) cases were reported.

Figure 2: Number of Respiratory Infection cases in the <5 and >5 age groups for 2009-2011.

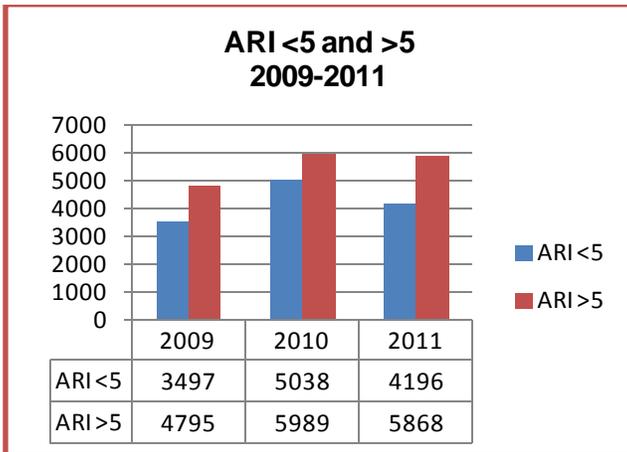
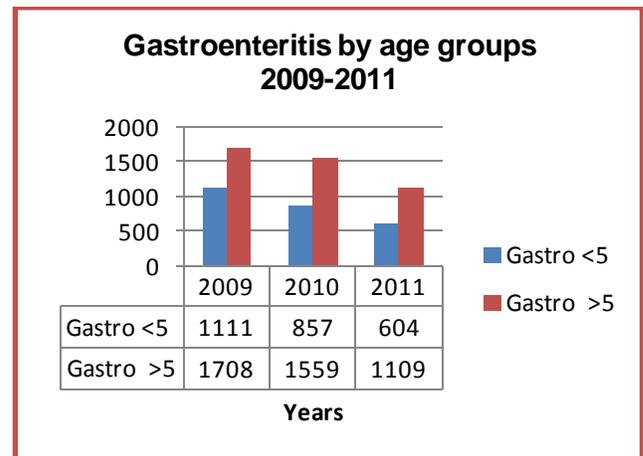


Figure 3: Number of Gastroenteritis cases in the <5 and >5 age groups for the years 2010-2011.



Gastroenteritis <5:

There has been a decrease in the number of reported cases of Gastroenteritis <5 for the year 2011. Six hundred and four (604) cases were reported. Eight hundred and fifty seven (857) cases were reported in 2010, one thousand one hundred and eleven (1111) cases in 2009.

Gastroenteritis >5:

One thousand one hundred and nine (1109) cases of gastroenteritis >5 were reported for this period. Data reveals that there has been a decrease in the number of cases for 2011, when compared to one thousand five hundred and fifty nine (1559) cases for the same period in 2010.

Health professionals should continue public education in the area of gastroenteritis which will help to curb the spread of the disease.

Foodborne Illness:

The trend of this disease showed an increase for 2011. One hundred and twenty eight (128) cases were reported when compared to ninety four (94) cases in 2010, one hundred and eight (108) cases in 2009, and fifty seven cases in 2008.

Undifferentiated Fever <5:

There was an increase of this disease for the year 2011. One hundred and sixty (160) cases were reported. One hundred and forty four (144) cases were reported for 2011, and ninety nine (99) cases were reported for 2009.

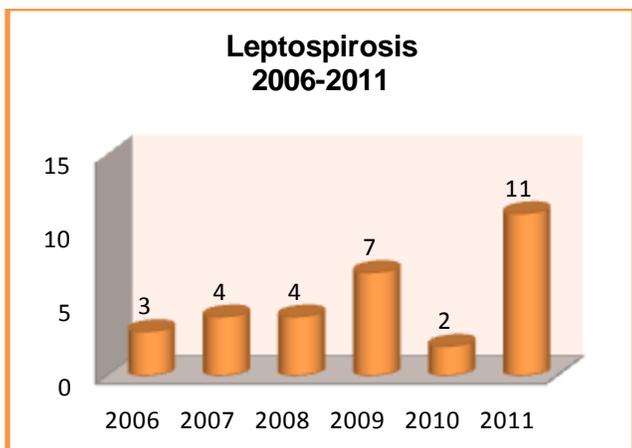
Undifferentiated Fever >5:

There has been a decrease in the number of reported cases of undifferentiated fever >5 for the year 2011. One hundred (100) cases were reported for the same period, when compared to one hundred and forty nine (149) cases in 2010, and one hundred and eight (108) cases in 2009.

Leptospirosis:

There number of cases for Leptospirosis increased in the year 2011. Eleven (11) cases were reported, when compared to the previous five (5) years, 2006, three (3) cases, 2007, four (4) cases, 2008, four (4) cases, 2009, seven (7) cases, and 2010, two (2) cases.

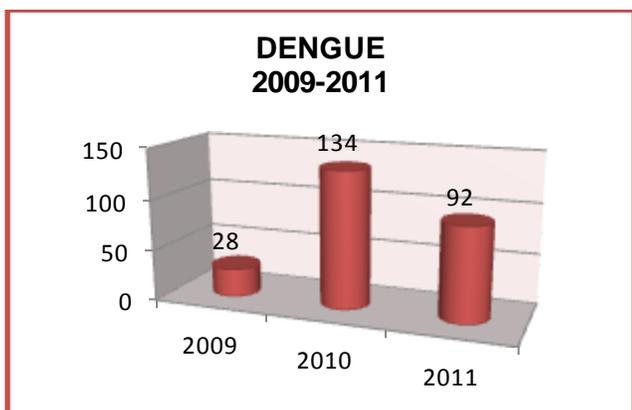
Figure 4: Number of Leptospirosis cases for the years 2006-2011.



Dengue Fever:

This disease although showing a decrease in 2011, is still high. Ninety two (92) cases were reported. In 2010 one hundred and thirty four (134) cases were reported. Twenty eight (28) cases were reported in 2009.

Figure 5: Graph illustrating the trend of Dengue for the period 2009-2011.



Malaria:

There were no reported cases of Malaria for this reporting period. One (1) imported case was reported for 2010.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

Genital Discharge:

No significant change observed in the trend of this disease for the year 2011 and 2010. One hundred and seventy (170) cases were reported in 2011, and one hundred and seventy three (173) cases were reported in 2010. Eighty nine (89) cases were reported in 2009.

Chlamydial Infection:

This sexually transmitted infection showed a slight decrease for the year 2011. Eighteen (18) cases were reported, when compared to twenty three (23) cases in 2010. Eight (8) cases were reported in 2009, and nine (9) cases in 2008.

Gonococcal Infection:

There has been an increase in the number of Gonococcal Infection cases for the year 2011. One hundred and twenty one (121) cases were reported. Ninety nine (99) cases were reported in 2010, and eighty three cases in 2009.

Syphilis:

Forty nine (49) cases of this infection were reported for this period. This showed an increase when compared to twenty three (23) cases in 2010 and twenty eight (28) cases in 2009.

Herpes:

There has been a slight decrease in the number of reported cases of this disease for the year 2011. Twelve (12) cases were reported when compared to fourteen (14) cases for 2010 and eighteen (18) cases for 2009.

Hepatitis B:

The trend of this Sexually Transmitted Infection fluctuated on a year to year basis. For the year 2011, fifty two (52) cases were reported when compared to fifty (50) cases in 2010, eighty four (84) cases in 2009 and ninety eight (98) cases in 2008.

OTHER DISEASES

Chicken Pox:

There has been an outbreak of this disease for the year 2011. One hundred and ninety seven (197) cases were reported. This showed a significant increase when compared to forty six (46) cases in 2010, ninety eight (98) cases in 2009, sixty one (61) cases in 2008 and thirty three (33) cases in 2007.

Most of the cases were reported from Her Majesty's Prisons.

Acute Haemorrhagic Conjunctivitis:

Forty three (43) cases of this eye condition were reported for the year 2011. This showed an increase when compared to thirty (30) cases for the year 2010. However there were overall decreases from 2006-2009.

Years	Number of cases
2006	67
2007	58
2008	78
2009	52
2010	30
2011	43

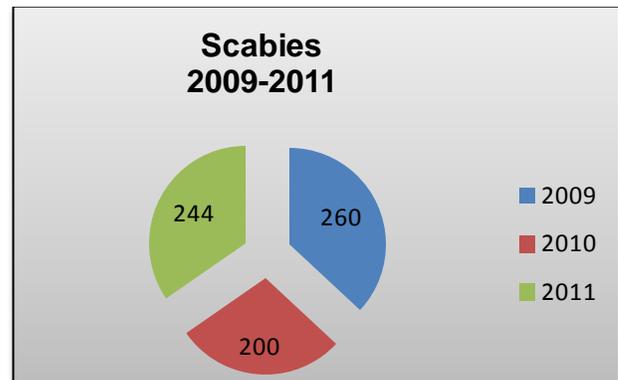
Conjunctivitis:

Twenty four (24) cases of this eye condition were reported for this period. This showed an increase when compared to the previous year (2010) sixteen (16) cases were reported.

Scabies:

The trend of this skin condition continues to fluctuate on a yearly basis. Two hundred and forty four (244) cases were reported for 2011, two hundred (200) cases for 2010 and two hundred and sixty (260) cases for 2009.

Figure 6: *Displaying number of scabies cases by years.*



Pelvic Inflammatory Disease:

Two hundred and forty eight (248) cases of (PID) Pelvic Inflammatory Disease were reported for 2011. This showed an increase when compared to one hundred and ninety one (191) cases in 2010.