## BC Centre for Disease Control An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

#### Measles

In 2018, there were six confirmed cases of measles in residents of BC. Three of these acquired infection during out of country travel (imported), and three acquired their infection within BC (import-associated). All BC cases had laboratory confirmation by PCR testing. Additionally, three cases were reported in out of country visitors to BC and were not included in the 2018 annual cases.

The first of the six BC cases occurred in June in a Fraser Health resident whose travel history was compatible with acquisition of infection in India. No secondary transmission occurred. The National Microbiology Laboratory identified measles genotype D8.

In August, a case occurred in a BC resident who had attended the Canada Place cruise ship terminal in Vancouver during the same time period as an out of country visitor with confirmed measles. One household transmission occurred from this case, with onset in September. Genotype D8 of a different strain from that of the June case was identified in both.

Separately in September, a confirmed case of measles was reported by Vancouver Coastal Health in an individual with no recent travel and no known contact with a measles case. Measles genotype D8 was again identified by the National Microbiology Laboratory. This strain was known

to be circulating in Ukraine and was different from the previous D8 strains identified earlier in the year.

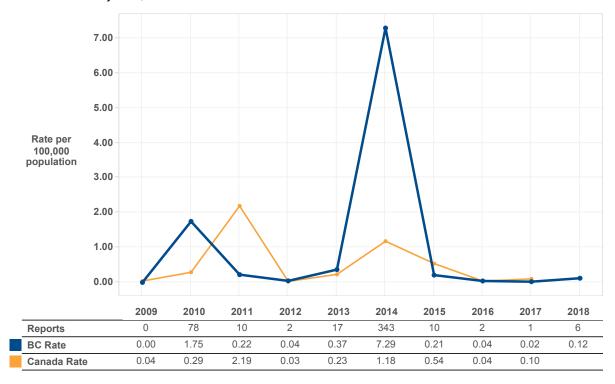
The last two measles cases of 2018 were reported in November. The first of these was reported by Fraser Health and was an individual with acquisition compatible with recent travel to the Philippines. This case resulted in transmission to a single secondary case exposed in a congregate setting. Genotype B3 was confirmed by the National Microbiology Laboratory for both of these cases.

Five out of six of the BC cases reported visiting an emergency department while ill, and two were then hospitalized with full recovery. Three cases (50%) were fully immunized with two documented doses of the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine, and one case had one documented dose of MMR vaccine. One case provided a history of 'childhood vaccines' without documentation, and one had unknown immunization status.



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### 22.1 Measles Rates by Year, 2009-2018



### 22.2 Measles Reports by Week, 2018

