



## Housing Related Conditions

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- What does "housing related condition" mean?
- What are the illnesses?
- How do these illnesses get affected by the cold and damp?
- A brief audit of bronchiectasis cases in Auckland



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# Where we spend our time?



New Zealand Travel Survey, 1997-98

#### Housing related conditions for the MoH for Healthy Homes Initiatives

- Respiratory tract infections
- Meningitis
- Invasive and post-streptococcal disease (GAS)



**Potentially Avoidable Hospitalisations** 

## Preventing Hospitalisations



#### Deaths



Time (days)

## **Respiratory tract infections**

- Acute upper respiratory infections
- Influenza
- Pneumonia
- Acute bronchiolitis
- Unspecified LRTI and bronchitis
- Bronchiectasis





- Meningococcal disease
- Bacterial meningitis (including pneumococcal, streptococcal and other)
- Viral meningitis
- Meningitis unspecified

## Rheumatic Fever & Invasive and post streptococcal • Acute nephrotic syndrome

Septicaemia from group A streptococcus



#### These are not part of the HHI eligibility criteria

- Restrict criteria
- Targeted service

Other housing related conditions					
4. Other respiratory conditions with infectious component	-Asthma (a proportion will be infectious exacerbations) -Otitis media, mastoiditis -Peritonsillar abscess				
5. Gastroenteritis	-Specified enteric agents with presumed human sources (eg viral gastroenteritis) -Gastroenteritis of presumed infectious origin -Nausea and vomiting				
6. Skin infections	-Bacterial skin infections sub- chapter, including abscess & cellulitis				

#### Definitions and word roots

## **ITIS:** suffix meaning inflammation



# ectasis: suffix meaning "dilatation or expansion"



Sepsis: refers to a bacterial infection in the bloodstream or body tissues

-broad term

-many types of microscopic disease-causing

organisms



#### Anatomy





#### **Pulmonary Arteries and Veins**





### **PNEUMONIA** New – moan – ee - a



- Any age
- Aveoli (air sacks) get inflamed
- Viral or bacterial



## **Symptoms**

- Increased breathing rate
- Cough
- Fever
- Sputum
- Shortness of breath



#### BRONCHIOLITIS

#### Bron – key – o – lite –is

#### Bronchiolitis



#### **Symptoms**

- Wheeze
- Cough
- Fever
- Difficulty breathing
- Difficulty feeding

## Acute bronchitis & unspecified acute LRTI



Inflamed primary and secondary bronchi



Acute bronchitis usually results from an infection such as a cold or flu

\*ADAM

## BRONCHIECTASIS

#### Bron – key – eck –tar – sis

### What is it?

- from *chronic* inflammatory secretions and microbes
- *permanent* dilation and distortion of airway walls
- recurrent infection





Figure 2. Normal Lung and Airways (Panel A) and the Lung of a Patient with Bronchiectasis (Panel B). In Panel B, bronchiectasis is primarily in the lower lobe, which is the most common distribution. The saccular dilatations and grapelike clusters with pools of mucus are signs of severe bronchiectasis.

### **MENINGITIS**

Men – in – gi – tis

- Inflammation of the membrane around your brain and spinal cord
- Bacterial or viral or not specified



## MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE

#### Men – in – joe –cock – ill



## RHEUMATIC FEVER (RhF) Rue – mat – ick



#### **Rheumatic Fever**

"An auto-immune consequence of infection of a bacterium of Group A streptococcus (GAS) which causes an acute generalised inflammatory response and an illness that affects certain parts of the body; the heart, joints, brain and skin"

NZ has 3<sup>rd</sup> world rates for our Maori and Pacific population





Cumulative monthly count of ARF cases, Māori and Pacific 0 to 19 year olds by year, 2012-2017, Auckland region





Preventing Rheumatic Fever



#### How does rheumatic fever affect the body?



#### **Heart Anatomy**





the wrong direction. In this illustration, a condition called mitral valve prolapse (in which the valve's leaflets cannot close properly) is causing the regurgitation during the contraction phase. POST STEP GN (glomerulonephritis)

Glom-er-ue – lo-nef – right – is



- Glomerulonephritis: group of diseases that injure the part of the kidney that filters blood (called glomeruli)
- Injured kidney cannot get rid of wastes and extra fluid in the body



### **GAS SEPSIS**

Gaz – sep –sis or Group A strep

#### Infection (anywhere) caused by group A streptococcus



# Why are these disease associated with cold, damp and crowded living conditions?

- Many studies report that damp housing conditions are associated with respiratory symptoms
- Less is known about mechanisms
- But we know lung function in asthmatics is dramatically decreased below 12C
- And that this group of vulnerable children die at 10x the rate of the average population
- And get readmitted to hospital 3-4x more often
- And that these children live in poor housing

And we know that improving the thermal envelope will allow a house to be heated more effectively

#### A damp dwelling is more difficult to heat and a poorly heated dwelling more susceptible to damp



**Cold air** has a higher relative humidity (**damper**), increasing the risk of condensation indoors and providing a **more favourable** environment for the growth of moulds and micro-organisms"



**Overcrowded housing** is more likely to be **damp**, especially if poorly aired or shut in bad weather

#### **Evidence that improving housing works**

- Counties study (published in 2009) showed "reduced acute hospitalisation with the healthy housing programme"
- Multple studies from Otago Clinical School in Wellington
- 20 years of research into how housing affects health
  - o Housing, insulation & health study
  - Housing heating & health study
  - Housing injury prevention study
  - o Warm homes for elderly New Zealanders
  - Warm Up New Zealand evaluation
  - o NEST study
  - o Social housing outcome study
  - Housing outcome and mould evaluation
  - o HEART rheumatic fever study
  - $\circ$  ...and more
- Bronchiectasis audit 2018

## Staff noted that the bronchiectasis children were in less – ward and school staff





- Nurse Specialist -AWHI eligibility assessment with 130/171 families in Auckland
- 40 referred to AWHI
- Complete data on 24 cases

#### **Health utilisation**

 All hospital admissions were counted 18 months prior and 18 months after the stated day of moving or having the home improvements completed

• All antibiotic use was counted 18 months prior and 18 months after the stated day of moving or having the home improvements completed.

#### Decrease in admissions Decrease in course of antibiotics prescribed

	Admissions 18m before	Admissions 18m after	Antibiotics 18m before	Antibiotics 18m after
	No. & average			
New Home (10 children)	(15) 1.5	(9) 0.9	(49) 4.9	(31) 3.1
Work done (13 children)	(28) 2.1	(15) 1.15	(75) 5.8	(41) 3.1
Total (23 children)	42	24	124	72

"From a chest perspective M has been fantastic. No significant chest infection or hospital admission" (Drs clinic notes) (Nurses note) "M has been very good, attending school now. Our warm home has made a difference"

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Mum said "G has been much better since their house got insulated"