

1. You are a public health physician in the state health department. The STI epidemiologist informs you that the number of XDR gonorrhoea cases year to date is twice that of the year before, and higher than in any previous year.

Describe your approach to determine if this is an outbreak, and what are the control measures you would consider?

2. You are a public health physician working in a local public health unit.

You receive a report from the Department of Agriculture that testing from a mass bird death at a local lake has identified influenza A and that the specimens have been sent to the reference laboratory for further characterisation which will take up to 48 hours.

The caller from the Department of Agriculture also notes that in addition to their staff, local residents and wildlife volunteers had been trying to care for some of the dying birds.

How would you respond while awaiting the results from the reference laboratory?

3. You are a public health physician in a local public health unit. Recent data from the Australian Immunisation Register indicates that coverage rates for your residents aged 75 years and older in your jurisdiction for the five funded vaccines varies significantly by vaccine type, ranging from 10% for RSV vaccine to 50% for influenza.

How would you assess and respond to this situation?