Dengue Fever and Malaria Notifications

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Dengue fever and malaria have serious effects on the world population health**
- **In New Zealand, dengue fever notifications increased from 77 cases in 2012 to 106 cases in 2013.**
- **In 2013, 47 cases of malaria were notified in New Zealand, compared to 38 cases in 2012.**
- **Overseas travel played an essential role in the infections of dengue fever and malaria**

Source:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anopheles#mediaviewer/File:Anopheles_stephensi.jpeg. (Left).
http://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/bugs-your-july-4th-bbq-beware-chikungunya-west-nile-n147881. (Right)

Dengue fever and malaria have serious effects on the world population health

Dengue fever is a viral disease transmitted by mosquitoes and is prevalent throughout the tropics and subtropics. Dengue fever is the world's fastest growing vector-borne disease and its incidence have increased 30-fold over the last 50 years (World Health Organisation, 2014b). Around 40 percent of the world's population is now at risk from dengue fever. Each year, about 390 million dengue fever infections occur in over 100 countries.

Malaria is a disease caused by the parasite Plasmodium, and is transmitted by mosquitoes. It kills over 1.2 million people annually (World Health Organisation, 2014a), and is a leading cause of death and disease in many developing countries. Young children and pregnant women are the groups most affected.

In 2013, both dengue fever and malaria notifications are increased in New Zealand

In 2013, 106 cases of dengue fever were notified in New Zealand, an increase of 38% compared to 2012 (Table 1).

47 cases of malaria were notified in New Zealand in 2013, an increase of 24% compared to 2012 (Table 1).

Table 1: Number of malaria and dengue fever notifications in New Zealand, 2012-2013

Disease	2012	2013	Change %
Dengue fever	77	106	38 ↑
Malaria	38	47	24 ↑

Source: ESR. (2014).

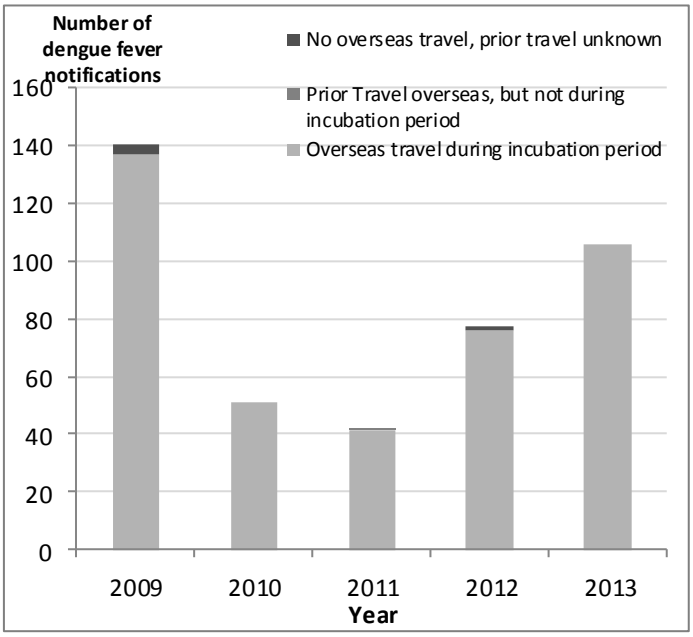
Dengue Fever and Malaria Notifications

Overseas travel played an essential role in the infection of dengue fever and malaria

Annual dengue fever notifications fluctuated between 42 and 140 cases from 2009 to 2013 (Figure 1). Around 99% of these cases had a history of overseas travel (Figure 1)

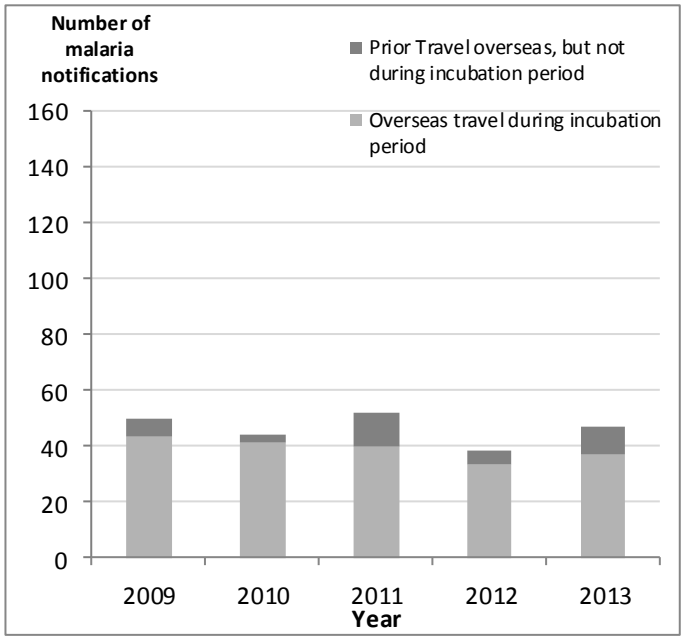
Annual malaria notifications fluctuated between 38 and 52 from 2009 to 2013 (Figure 2). Overseas travel was found in all cases. Around 84% of the overseas travel happened during the incubation period.

Figure 1: Number of dengue notifications in New Zealand by risk factors, 2009-2013



Source: ESR. (2014).

Figure 2: Number of malaria notifications in New Zealand by risk factors, 2009-2013



Source: ESR. (2014).

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