Health Protection Agency

CDR WEEKLY

Current Issue: Volume 14 Number 50 **Published:** 9 December 2004

NEWS STORIES:

INFECTION REPORTS:

Enteric:

DIARY:

CDR SUBSCRIPTION:

To subscribe to *CDR Weekly*, please visit: <http://www.hpa.org.uk/cdr/contact.htm>

Current Issue: Volume **14** Number **50** **Published on**: 9 December 2004

News

Last updated: **9 December 2004**
Next update due: **16 December 2004**

Revised guidance on contracting for cleaning **published**

The National Standards of Cleanliness have been revised and renamed the National Specifications for Cleanliness. These revised specifications are now incorporated into Revised Guidance on Contracting for Cleaning produced by NHS Estates and published jointly by the Department of Health (DH) (1).
High quality cleaning in healthcare facilities is important because it assures pleasant surroundings for patients that implies a good standard of care, and because the environment may play a role in the transmission of some healthcare associated infections.

A key issue in relation to maintaining standards of cleaning in the NHS has been the impact that compulsory competitive tendering has had on the quality of cleaning services, since cost has often been the major consideration when contracts are awarded. The revised Guidance on Contracting for Cleaning seeks to address this problem by providing NHS Trusts with best practice guidance on evaluating and awarding cleaning contracts. In addition, it includes recommended minimum cleaning frequencies, and links to an updated (web based) healthcare cleaning manual (2).

The NHS Plan (3) highlighted the need to improve standards of cleanliness across the NHS and has been followed by a number of initiatives directed at this problem, co-ordinated by NHS Estates <http://www.cleanhospitals.com>. These have included the Patient Environment Action Teams (PEAT) who undertake unannounced inspections to report on standards of cleanliness; the National Standards of Cleanliness (first published in 2001) that enable hospitals to measure and compare their cleanliness; and guidance on cleaning methods contained in an NHS healthcare cleaning manual (2). In addition, modern matrons have been identified as playing a key role in assuring cleaning standards at ward level (4).

References

1. Department of Health (NHS Estates). Revised Guidance on Contracting for Cleaning: London: Department of Health, 7 December 2004. Available at <http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/09/75/37/04097537.pdf>.
2. NHS Estates [online]. The NHS Healthcare Cleaning Manual. London: Department of Health. Leeds: NHS Estates, March 2004. Available at <http://patientexperience.nhsestates.gov.uk/clean_hospitals/ch_content/cleaning_manual/introduction.asp>.
3. Department of Health (NHS). The NHS Plan - A plan for investment; A plan for reform. London: Department of Health, July 2000. Available at <http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/05/57/83/04055783.pdf>.
4. Department of Health (NHS Estates). A Matron's Charter: An Action Plan for Cleaner Hospitals. London: Department of Health, 19 October 2004. Available at <http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/09/15/07/04091507.pdf>.

Current Issue: Volume **14** Number **50** **Published on**: 9 December 2004

Enteric

Last updated: **9 December 2004**
Next update due: **13 January 2005**

General outbreaks of foodborne illness, England and Wales: weeks 44-48/04

Preliminary information has been received about the following outbreaks. Final information is included in the quarterly report (below).

Health Protection Unit	Organism	Location of food prepared or served	Month of outbreak	Number ill	Cases positive	Suspect vehicle	Evidence
Cumbria and Lancashire	*Clostridium perfringens*	Residental Institution	October	29	5	Beef casserole	D
Surrey and Sussex	*C. perfringens*	Function	September	3	3	–	–
South west London	*S.* Enteritidis PT1	Restaurant	October	3	3	Pork and rice	D
Shropshire and Staffordshire	*S.* Enteritidis PT14B	Function	November	4	4	–	–

M (microbiological): identification of an organism of the same type from cases and in the suspect vehicle, or vehicle ingredient(s), or detection of toxin in faeces or food; D (descriptive): other evidence, usually descriptive, reported by local investigators as indicating the suspect vehicle or food; S (statistical): a significant statistical association between consumption of the suspect vehicle(s)and being a case.

Salmonella infections (faecal specimens), England and Wales, reports to the HPA (Salmonella data set): October 2004

Details of serotypes of 1234 salmonella infections recorded in October 2004 are given in the table below. In November 2004, 503 Salmonella infections were recorded and preliminary information was received about two outbreaks (see above table)

	October 2004
Total *Salmonella**	1234
S. Enteritidis (PT4)	203
S. Enteritidis (other PTs)	698
S. Typhimurium	89
S. Virchow	27
Others (typed)	217

* Data provisional.

Common gastrointestinal infections, England and Wales, laboratory reports: weeks 44-48/04

	Number of report received					Total reports	Cumulative total to	
Laboratory reports	**44/04**	**45/04**	**46/04**	**47/04**	**48/04**	**44-48/04**	**44/04**	**48/03**
Campylobacter	618	685	566	465	366	**2700**	**37,598**	**42,432**
Escherichia coli* O157	25	7	7	9	2	**50**	**606**	**404**
***Salmonella*†**	186	181	154	140	56	**717**	**10,964**	**14,329**
Shigella sonnei	23	17	14	8	8	**70**	**643**	**550**
Rotavirus	48	42	61	38	48	**237**	**13,108**	**14,533**
Norovirus	59	67	57	68	43	**294**	**2129**	**2035**
Cryptosporidium	82	97	77	66	39	**361**	**3139**	**5494**
Giardia	51	70	55	39	29	**244**	**2659**	**3083**

* Vero cytotoxin producing isolates (data from Health Protection Agency's Laboratory of Enteric Pathogens (LEP).
† Data from Health Protection Agency's Laboratory of Enteric Pathogens.

General outbreaks of foodborne illness, England and Wales: April to June 2004

Health Protection Unit	Organism	Location of food prepared or served	Number ill	Cases positive	Suspect vehicle	Evidence
Shropshire	*S*. Enteritidis PT4	Public House	30	30	Bread and butter pudding	D
Wales	*S*. Enteritidis PT4	Residental Home	13	13	Coffee egg nog pie	D
Surrey and Sussex	*S*. Enteritidis PT4	School	20	2	–	–
Basildon	*S*. Enteritidis PT14B	Restaurant	13	13	–	–
North west London	*S*. Enteritidis PT22	Restaurant	2	2	Egg fried rice	D
Bedfordshire	*S*. Enteritidis PT24	Retail	5	5		
North east Hampshire	*Campylobacter*	Function	81	30	BBQ chicken	D

M (microbiological): identification of an organism of the same type from cases and in the suspect vehicle, or vehicle ingredient(s), or detection of toxin in faeces or food; D (descriptive): other evidence, usually descriptive, reported by local investigators as indicating the suspect vehicle or food; S (statistical): a significant statistical association between consumption of the suspect vehicle(s)and being a case.

***Salmonella* serotypes recorded in the Health Portection Agency Salmonella data set: July to September 2004**

All serotypes recorded in the Health Protection Agency salmonella data set in the third quarter of 2004 are listed below. There were more than ten reports of 23 serotypes, two to ten reports of 56 serotypes, and one report each of 43 serotypes.

More than ten reports of the following serotypes were received: July to September 2004

S. Agona	35	*S*. Anatum	11
S. Blockley	14	*S*. Braenderup	39
S. Corvallis	26	*S*. Durham	13
S. Enteritidis	3979	*S*. Gold-Coast	14
S. Hadar	36	*S*. Infantis	37
S. Java	25	*S*. Kentucky	33
S. Kottbus	17	*S*. Mbandaka	12
S. Montevideo	17	*S*. Newport	433
S. Saint-Paul	11	*S*. Senftenberg	13
S. Stanley	30	*S*. Thompson	51
S. Typhimurium	422	*S*. Unnamed	30
S. Virchow	55		

Between two and ten reports of the following serotypes were received: July to September 2004

S. Aberdeen	2	*S*. Abony	3
S. Adelaide	2	*S*. Agama	6
S. Agbeni	2	*S*. Ajiobo	7
S. Alachua	3	*S*. Albany	4
S. Altona	3	*S*. Arechavaleta	2
S. Arizonae	3	*S*. Bardo	2
S. Bareilly	8	*S*. Bovis-Morbificans	2
S. Brandenburg	5	*S*. Bredeney	7
S. Chester	4	*S*. Colindale	6
S. Concord	2	*S*. Derby	10
S. Dublin	3	*S*. Duisburg	2
S. Eastbourne	2	*S*. Galiema	3
S. Give	2	*S*. Haifa	8
S. Havana	3	*S*. Heidelberg	9
S. Hvittingfoss	10	*S*. Ibadan	4
S. Kedougou	3	*S*. Litchfield	3
S. Livingstone	8	*S*. London	8
S. Manhattan	3	*S*. Matopeni	2
S. Minneapolis	2	*S*. Mississippi	3
S. Muenchen	8	*S*. Muenster	5
S. New-Haw	5	*S*. Newington	3
S. Ohio	5	*S*. Oranienburg	9
S. Oslo	2	*S*. Panama	3
S. Potsdam	2	*S*. Reading	4
S. Richmond	6	*S*. Rissen	3
S. Rubislaw	2	*S*. Singapore	2
S. Takoradi	2	*S*. Tel-El-Kebir	2
S. Uganda	3	*S*. Weltevreden	6

One each of the following were received: July to September 2004

S. Amsterdam	*S*. Ank
S. Arkansas	*S*. Bietri
S. Binza	*S*. Bispebjerg
S. Bonn	*S*. Cerro
S. Chailey	*S*. Chandans
S. Claibornei	*S*. Djibouti
S. Emek	*S*. Flint
S. Goverdhan	*S*. Ilala
S. Indiana	*S*. Kimuenza
S. Lanka	*S*. Leiden
S. Liverpool	*S*. Mgulani
S. Mikawasima	*S*. Mkamba
S. Napoli	*S*. Nchanga
S. Neukoelln	*S*. Nima
S. Okatie	*S*. Orion
S. Oritamerin	*S*. Pakistan
S. Plymouth	*S*. Poona
S. San-Diego	*S*. Stourbridge
S. Tel-Hashomer	*S*. Umbilo
S. Urbana	*S*. Veneziana
S. Waycross	*S*. Worthington
S. Zanzibar	

Current Issue: Volume **14** Number **50** **Published on**: 9 December 2004

Diary

Last updated: **30 September 2004**

For information about other conferences, courses, and events visit http://www.hpa.org.uk/hpa/about_us/events.htm

Diploma in Hospital Infection Control

Residential course on engineering in infection control: steam sterilisation, washer-disinfectors, specialist ventilation and other aspects of hospital hygiene

There will be two courses in 2005: one from 16 to 20 May and another on 3 to 7 October. Both will be held at Eastwood Park Training Centre in Falfield (near Bristol), a specialist centre for healthcare engineering. The course is a module for the Diploma in Hospital Infection Control, but can also be taken by those not registered for the DipHIC. This course is registered for CPD points. The fee is £1250 (residential) or £975 (non-residential). For details regarding registration and further information about the courses please write to Greta Howell, Laboratory of HealthCare Associated Infection, HPA, 61 Colindale Avenue , London NW9 5HT , or email: <greta.howell@hpa.org.uk>.

Symposium on travel associated disease 2005

The Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (RSTMH), are hosting a one day conference on 14 February 2005 – *Symposium on travel associated disease 2005* (CPD approved).

Venue and registration details:

Monday, 14 February 2005, 10:00-16:30
Goldsmiths lecture theatre,
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Keppel Street, London WC1

Registration including lunch: £70 (students/nurses £20). Application form and programme available from: (RSTMH), 50 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3DP. Tel: 020 7580 2127; email: <mail@rstmh.org>.