

Communicable Disease Report

Haemorrhagic colitis: *Escherichia coli* O 157

Twenty cases of haemorrhagic colitis, associated with a verotoxin producing urease positive strain of *E. coli* O 157, have now been reported. Fourteen of these are in persons who live in or visited Preston. Two cases are resident elsewhere in the North Western region and four cases reside in other parts of Great Britain. Three of the cases have progressed to haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS).

A case-control study among the Preston cases has shown a significant association with eating a hamburger product from a single retail outlet in Preston. A further analytical study of cases in other parts of Great Britain is under way.

Laboratories are invited to submit any cultures of *E. coli* O 157 from humans to the Division of Enteric Pathogens (DEP). DEP would be pleased to receive faecal specimens from any patients with HUS or haemorrhagic colitis culture negative for *E. coli* O 157, with onset of illness in January or February. Serum samples should be submitted with faecal samples if possible. CDSC would be grateful for information on any cases of HUS.

Typhoid in North London

Four laboratory confirmed cases of *Salmonella typhi* have been reported from hospitals in North London. All four cases had eaten food bought at the same take-away food shop. Two of the cases had attended a party at which food bought from the shop on 22 December 1990 was served. Both of the other two cases had also eaten food bought from the shop during late December 1990. No other common factor between the cases has been identified, and none of the cases has a history of recent travel abroad.

Isolates from two of the cases have been identified by the Division of Enteric Pathogens (DEP), Colindale, as *S. typhi* Vi-phage type M1. Both isolates were resistant to chloramphenicol. Phage typing and antibiotic resistance data are awaited on the other two isolates.

DEP reported 49 cases of multi-resistant *S. typhi* Vi-phage type M1 during 1990; most of the isolates were from patients who had recently returned from Pakistan or who had been in contact with people from Pakistan prior to their illnesses.

Microbiological investigation of environmental and food specimens from the shop is in progress, as is screening of staff. Control of the suspected source was undertaken on 1 February 1991.

CDSC would be grateful for early information on any suspected or confirmed *S. typhi* infections occurring in persons known to have eaten food bought in North London during December and January.

British Society for Parasitology: Malaria meeting

This meeting will be held at the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh on 14 and 15 February 1991. The programme includes sessions on treatment, drug design and resistance; cell biology, biochemistry and molecular biology; vaccine trials and field studies; and antigens and host-parasite interactions. There will be a poster session and two workshops. For further information and registration details, please contact Professor D Walliker (telephone 031 650 5548; fax 031 668 3861).

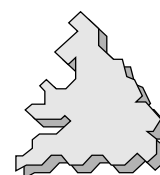
Virus infections:
weeks 91/02-05

AIDS and HIV-1 antibody reports – United Kingdom

Bacteraemia and bacterial meningitis:
weeks 91/02-05

Unusual infections:
weeks 91/02-05

Animal-associated infections:
weeks 91/02-05



Virus infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports weeks 91/02-05

Laboratory reports	Number of reports received				Total reports 91/02-05	Cumulative total for 1991
	91/02	91/03	91/04	91/05		
Coxsackie A	2	4	3	1	10	13
Coxsackie B	3	8	8	9	28	30
Echovirus	9	8	5	8	30	39
Measles	3	3	—	2	8	8
Mumps	1	—	3	3	7	8
Parvovirus B19	10	7	9	16	42	53
Rubella	1	4	5	4	14	16

Coxsackie A: A9, 6; A16, 4.

Two women aged 27 and 31 years had A9 meningitis (both CSF isolates).

A16, three children aged less than 4 years and one patient, age not stated, had hand, foot and mouth disease; all lived in different regions.

Coxsackie B: B1, 3; B2, 1; B3, 11; B4, 8; B5, 4; B6, 1.

Seven patients had meningitis (CSF isolate, 2): 2 children aged less than 4 years, 3 adults aged 25-34 years, and 2

patients for whom age was not stated.

Echovirus: type 2, 1; type 5, 3; type 6, 1; type 9, 2; type 11, 4; type 14, 1; type 15, 1; type 20, 1; type 22, 8; type 23, 2; type 27, 1; type 29, 1; type 30, 4.

Seven patients had meningitis (CSF isolate, 4): 2 children aged less than 15 years; 3 adults aged 25-44 years; 1 aged 45-64 years; 1 patient age not stated.

There were no geographical clusters among any of the enteroviruses reported during this period.

Notifications to OPCS of measles, mumps and rubella, England and Wales

	Number of reports received				Total reports 91/02-05	Cumulative total for 1991
	91/02	91/03	91/04	91/05		
Measles	216	171	183	175	745	899
Mumps	76	59	65	47	247	301
Rubella	172	141	152	161	626	735

Measles: 4 children aged less than 15 years and 4 adults. Two boys aged 5-9 years had subacute sclerosing panencephalitis (SSPE).

Notifications of measles to OPCS continue at the lowest level ever recorded.

Mumps: 2 children aged less than 15 years and 5 adults.

Parvovirus (B19): 3 regions reported more than 4 cases: Yorkshire (9), W Midlands (6) and N Western (5).

Ages: 7 children less than 15 years; 26 adults 15-44 years; 3, 45-64 years and 3, 65 years or more; 3 patients age not stated.

26 patients presented with rash; 22 had arthralgia and 2 had aplastic crises.

The number of infections reported is low, as expected at this time of year.

Rubella: no region reported more than 3 cases.

Ages: 2 children less than 15 years; 11 adults 15-44 years including 3 women, two of whom were pregnant; 1 aged 45-64 years.

Three patients presented with arthralgia.

As expected, the number of infections reported is low at this time of year.

Selected bacterial infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports 91/02-05

Arcanobacterium (Corynebacterium) haemolyticum 3:

M 17y with traumatic wound (pus); F 17y with pharyngitis and rash (throat); F 69y with abscess (pus).

Bordetella pertussis 32, including 2 pairs of siblings.

Two regions reported more than 3 cases: Trent (5) and Wessex (4).

Ages: 9 aged less than 6 months, including 4 aged 3 months or less; 4 aged 6-11 months; 11 aged 1-5 years; 7 aged 6-14 years; 1, age not stated.

Also reported, M 13d with petechial rash whose mother seroconverted during pregnancy.

AIDS and HIV-1 antibody reports - United Kingdom

During January 1990, 131 new cases of AIDS were reported. Ninety two were probably infected through sexual intercourse between men (11 died), 13 through sexual intercourse between men and women (6 died), six through injecting drug use (2 died), one through either injecting drug use or sexual intercourse between men, 11 through blood factor treatment (3 died), one through blood transfusion, and three through mother to child transmission (1 died). The exposure category of four cases (3 died) was undetermined.

Since reporting began in 1982, a total of 4,228 AIDS

cases (4,014 males, 214 females) were reported by the end of January 1991 of whom 2,375 were known to have died (Table 1). The proportion of AIDS cases reported in the past year which were heterosexual men or women was 22% (Table 2).

In most regions the number of AIDS cases reported in 1990 was appreciably greater than in 1989 (Table 3). HIV-1 infections in male and female injecting drug users have been reported from every part of the United Kingdom (Table 4).

Table 1 AIDS cases (known deaths) by exposure category and date of report: United Kingdom to 31 January 1991

How persons probably acquired the virus	Feb 89 - Jan 90		Feb 90 - Jan 91		Jan 82 - Jan 91			
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	(Deaths)	Female	(Deaths)
Sexual intercourse								
between men	674	—	970	—	3330	(1878)	—	—
between men and women								
"high risk" partner ¹	3	6	3	8	11	(7)	24	(13)
other partner abroad ²	38	16	73	33	152	(76)	67	(28)
other partner UK	4	4	4	8	11	(6)	14	(4)
Injecting drug use (IDU)	35	9	62	19	127	(54)	40	(20)
IDU & sexual intercourse between men	9	—	20	—	62	(36)	—	—
Blood								
blood factor (e.g. haemophiliacs)	44	—	59	2	235	(157)	4	(2)
blood/tissue transfer (e.g. transfusion)								
abroad	1	3	3	10	14	(9)	24	(15)
UK	3	3	2	6	16	(13)	14	(9)
Mother to child	—	4	7	9	15	(5)	23	(11)
Other/undetermined	12	2	18	1	41	(30)	4	(2)
Total	823	47	1221	96	4014	(2271)	214	(104)

1. Includes men and women who had sex with injecting drug users, or with those infected by contaminated blood and women who had sex with bisexual men.

2. Includes persons without other identified risks from, or who have lived in, countries where the major route of HIV-1 transmission is through sexual intercourse between men and women.

Table 2 Sexual orientation of adult (15 years or over) AIDS cases by date of report: United Kingdom to 31 January 1991

Sexual orientation	Feb 89 - Jan 90		Feb 90 - Jan 91		Jan 82 - Jan 91	
	Cases	(%)	Cases	(%)	Cases	(%)
Homosexual men	580	(68)	866	(68)	2882	(70)
Bisexual men	103	(12)	126	(10)	517	(13)
Heterosexual men and women	171	(20)	279	(22)	717	(17)
Total¹	854	(100)	1271	(100)	4116	(100)

1. Excludes some cases under investigation.

Tables 1-4 were prepared from voluntary confidential reports by clinicians and microbiologists sent directly to the PHLS Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre (081-200-6868) and to the Communicable Diseases (Scotland) Unit (041-946-7120), from monthly returns by paediatricians to the British Paediatric Surveillance Unit (071-935-1866), and from returns by Haemophilia Centre Directors to the Oxford Haemophilia Centre.

Table 3 Geographical distribution of AIDS cases (known deaths¹) by date of report: United Kingdom and Channel Islands and Isle of Man to 31 December 1990

Country and Region of first report	Jan 89 - Dec 89		Jan 90- Dec 90		Cumulative total since 1982	
	Cases	(Deaths ¹)	Cases	(Deaths ¹)	Cases	(Deaths ¹)
England:						
Northern	9	(3)	28	(5)	83	(46)
Yorkshire	27	(13)	39	(16)	112	(67)
Trent	15	(4)	24	(7)	80	(43)
E Anglia	11	(9)	7	(1)	42	(30)
NW Thames	331	(119)	500	(84)	1621	(797)
NE Thames	144	(49)	223	(64)	733	(395)
SE Thames	96	(57)	150	(43)	453	(275)
SW Thames	33	(21)	43	(21)	141	(100)
Wessex	16	(7)	31	(16)	94	(62)
Oxford	13	(8)	28	(7)	83	(48)
S Western	17	(8)	19	(10)	76	(51)
W Midlands	23	(10)	33	(13)	91	(54)
Mersey	6	(5)	16	(7)	52	(37)
N Western	29	(13)	48	(16)	156	(95)
Wales	14	(7)	16	(6)	64	(44)
Northern Ireland	5	(3)	8	(7)	22	(19)
Scotland	57	(23)	63	(13)	195	(93)
United Kingdom total	846	(359)	1276	(336)	4098	(2256)
Ch. Islands/Isle of Man	1	(1)	2	(2)	4	(4)

1. Reporting of recent deaths is incomplete.

Table 4 Geographical distribution and exposure category: HIV-1 antibody positive reports United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man to Week 90/52

Country and Region of first report	Sexual intercourse										Cumulative total Weeks 84/45-90/52	
	between men	between men and women			Injecting ¹ drug use			Blood ²	Other ³ /Undetermined			
		M	F	Unk.	M	F	Unk.		M	F		Unk.
England:												
Northern	155	20	14	-	48	11	1	96	11	1	-	357
Yorkshire	201	29	27	-	31	17	-	68	18	4	-	395
Trent	202	29	20	-	39	15	-	77	8	4	-	394
E Anglia	93	17	5	-	27	12	-	39	8	2	-	203
NW Thames	3593	110	152	-	272	87	2	60	335	52	19	4682
NE Thames	1451	94	97	7	111	66	2	201	371	52	55	2507
SE Thames	1027	56	61	1	138	54	-	145	129	27	2	1640
SW Thames	216	31	37	1	27	8	-	31	64	8	2	425
Wessex	176	9	16	-	30	9	-	32	37	6	3	318
Oxford	152	18	27	-	42	11	-	116	19	4	-	389
S Western	174	24	19	-	36	6	-	31	19	1	-	310
W Midlands	211	21	24	-	21	5	-	157	48	8	-	495
Mersey	88	11	5	-	9	7	-	51	19	-	-	190
N Western	391	29	17	-	46	23	-	121	39	14	-	680
Wales	113	21	15	-	7	1	-	61	11	-	-	229
N Ireland	35	8	10	-	3	3	-	16	3	-	-	78
Scotland	319	63	101	1	634	293	25	89	170	107	72	1874
United Kingdom total	8597	590	647	10	1521	628	30	1391	1309	290	153	15166
Ch. Islands/Isle of Man	10	1	2	-	4	2	-	2	3	1	-	25

1. Includes 162 male drug users who also had sexual intercourse with other men.

2. Includes 3 tissue recipients.

3. Includes 201 children of at risk or infected parents.

Bacteraemia and bacterial meningitis, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 91/02 – 05

Laboratory reports	No of reports received		Age		Total received	Cumulative total for 1991
	Blood only	CSF only or CSF & blood	<1m	≥65y		
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	53	99	2	8	152 (52) *	173
group A	–	1			1 (1) *	
B	33	59			92 (32) *	
C	13	30			43 (19) *	
W135	1	–			1 (–)	
Y	3	–			3 (–)	
ungrouped	3	9			12 (–)	
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	82	47	2	17	129 (7) #	177
type b	31	26			57 (4) #	
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	3	–	–	3	3	3

* sulphonamide-resistant

β-lactamase producing

Comment

Neisseria meningitidis: two regions reported more than 10% cases: Trent (18 cases) and W Midlands (18). 50 patients presented with rash, one with acute arthritis and 3, aged 65 years or more, with pneumonia. 52 sulphonamide-resistant strains were reported: **group A**, 1 (Yorkshire); **group B**, 32 (Northern 5, Yorkshire 1, Trent 5, E Anglia 1, NW Thames 1, SE Thames 3, SW Thames 2, Wessex 3, Oxford 1, W Midlands 5, Mersey 1, N Western 3

and Wales 1); **group C**, 19 (Northern 2, Yorkshire 1, Trent 1, E Anglia 1, NW Thames 1, NE Thames 2, SE Thames 1, SW Thames 3, Wessex 1, Oxford 1, W Midlands 3, Mersey 1 and Wales 1).

Also reported: **group B**, M 2m and F 4m with meningitis (both throat only). Ungrouped, M 24y (throat, joint). M 21y with meningitis (CSF microscopy only).

Notifications to OPCS of meningitis and meningococcal infections, England and Wales

	91/01	91/02	91/03	91/04	91/05
Total meningitis	68	96	87	59	51
Meningococcal meningitis	35	47	48	34	32
Meningococcal septicaemia	5	16	8	10	7

Age distribution laboratory reports

Laboratory reports	Age (years)										Not stated
	<1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	≥25	
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	39*	18	9	7	5	9	6	26	9	22	2
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	30#	30	13	6	5	5	2	–	1	30	7

* includes 9 aged ≤3 months

includes 2 aged ≤3 months

Haemophilus influenzae: only one region reported more than 10% cases: Trent (15 cases). 79 children aged 3 years or less were reported; four of them

had β-lactamase producing strains (Trent 2, Wessex 1, S Western 1) and three had other ampicillin-resistant strains (Yorkshire 1, S Western 2).

H. influenzae clinical features recorded on laboratory reports

Clinical features	Age (years)				Not stated
	≤3	4-14	15-64	≥65	
Meningitis (blood isolate only)	43 (7)	4 (–)	2 (–)	2 (–)	3 (–)
Epiglottitis	10	2	–	–	1
Pneumonia	2	–	2	5	–
Septic arthritis/osteomyelitis	2	–	–	–	–
Facial cellulitis	10	1	–	–	–

Also reported: M 10m with cellulitis (skin); M 2y with

epiglottitis (throat); M 3y with septic arthritis (trachea).

50 other patients were reported, including F 59y with pleural empyema and pericarditis who had abscess of uvula at PM; one male, age not stated, with parapharyngeal abscess; 3 had cellulitis of neck, hand or leg (1 each); 2 women had post partum fever. F54y (larynx). 3 patients had β -lactamase producing strains (Trent,

Mersey, S Western).

H. parainfluenzae 2: M 2y and male, age not stated (both blood isolates).

Listeria monocytogenes: 3 patients aged 75 years or more had bacteraemia.

Unusual infections

Bacillus sp 6: *B. cereus*, M 38y with IV-line (blood isolate) and M 30y with orthopaedic pin (wound); *B. subtilis*, F 59y with IV-line (blood isolate); *bacillus sp*, M 38y with orthopaedic pin (wound); F 83y and F 88y (both blood isolates).

Branhamella catarrhalis 4: F 67y (blood and sputum isolates); M 69y, M 73y and male age not stated (all blood isolates).

Diphtheroids 7: F 4y with CSF shunt (CSF isolate) and F 14y with cerebral tumour and VP shunt (CSF, shunt

tubing). M 63y with carcinomatosis and M 76y (both blood isolates). *C. jeikeium 2:* M 28y with leukaemia (blood isolate) and F 9y with CSF shunt (CSF isolate).

C. minutissimum, F 9y with leukaemia and IV-line (blood isolate).

Flavobacterium meningosepticum: M 44y after biliary tract surgery (blood isolate).

Haemophilus aphrophilus: M 67y with liver abscess (blood and pus isolates).

Moraxella sp: F 59y with leukaemia (blood isolate).

Animal-associated infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports weeks 91/02-05

Borrelia burgdorferi 2: F 35y with arthralgia after tick bite, and M 54y.

Capnocytophaga canimorsus (DF-2): previously healthy M 58y after dog bite (blood isolate).

Leptospirosis 1: M 53y with meningitis who worked in a knackers yard.

Pasteurella sp 22: *P. multocida* 18; *P. haemolytica* 2. 13 dog bites; 3 cat bites/scratches. M 51y and F 64y with pneumonia (both sputum); M 77y with bronchial carcinoma and pleural effusion (pleural aspirate); M 63y

with sinusitis (antral washout); M 80y with corneal ulceration and hypopyon (eye).

P. multocida, F 61y after drainage of abscess (blood isolate).

Streptococcus group A, 1: M 40y, meat inspector, with skin infection.

S. suis 1: M 44y, pig farmer, with meningitis (CSF and blood isolates).

Toxoplasma 77: 13 patients had eye lesions; 23 had lymphadenopathy (histology suggestive 8); 8 had glandular fever. 5 were HIV-1 antibody positive.

From week 91/01 data in CDR will be from England and Wales only, unless otherwise stated.

Weekly numbers are provisional and should not be used to indicate trends