

Communicable Disease Report

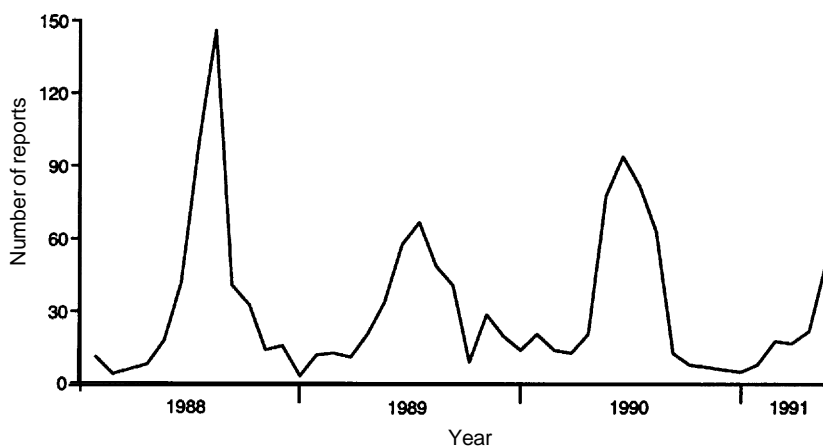
***Salmonella typhimurium* DT 193**

Preliminary findings from the investigation into a cluster of cases of *Salmonella typhimurium* DT 193 resistant to sulphamethoxazole and trimethoprim in the North West of England and North Wales suggest that cooked sliced loose ham was the likely vehicle of infection (see CDR 1991;1:93). Initial investigation of the food distribution networks, which is continuing, suggests the ham may have come from a single producer. The Division of Enteric Pathogens at Colindale have confirmed 39 cases in this outbreak.

Parainfluenza virus type 3: surveillance

Unlike the other respiratory viruses, infections with parainfluenza virus type 3 peak in the summer months. The figure shows the four-weekly totals since the beginning of 1988. The expected rise for 1991 is now evident and most regions are reporting cases.

Laboratory reports of parainfluenza type 3 infections, England and Wales



More than 80% of the cases are in children aged less than 4 years although occasional reports are received of infections in all age groups.

Chemical contaminants in fish

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) recently re-issued advice to anglers that it is inadvisable to eat fish caught in polluted rivers and estuaries. The advice arises from recent findings of elevated levels of mercury in eels caught in the Mersey estuary and evidence of continuing high levels of the pesticide dieldrin in eels from certain rivers.

Anglers' organisations and clubs are advised to contact their local National Rivers Authority (NRA) if in doubt about which waters are of poor quality as there is a high risk of chemical contamination in fish, particularly eels, taken from them.

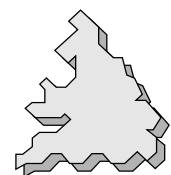
The advice does not apply to commercial fish stocks which are subject to regular monitoring.

Respiratory tract infections:
weeks 91/19 - 22

Mycobacterial infections:
weeks 91/19 - 22

Bacteraemia and bacterial meningitis:
weeks 91/19 - 22

Unusual infections:
weeks 91/19 - 22



Influenza surveillance

Influenza activity throughout Europe and North America has been generally low during the 1990-91 winter season. Influenza B viruses were isolated most frequently. A few cases of influenza A were reported during the season, mainly of the H₁N₁ subtype. Influenza B isolation was reported from Thailand during March and an epidemic occurred in Japan from January to March during which the influenza A H₃N₂ subtype was isolated most frequently. As yet we have received no reports of influenza virus isolation from the Southern hemisphere.

In England and Wales, the Virus Reference Laboratory (VRL) has confirmed five isolates of influenza B and two isolates of influenza A, subtype H₃N₂ since the beginning of April 1991. VRL received the last isolate of influenza B on 23 May and the last influenza A (H₃N₂) isolate on 23 April. CDSC has received seven reports of influenza B isolates and two reports of influenza A isolates of the subtype H₃N₂ over the same period. No isolates have been received since the week ending 18 May. This reflects considerably decreased levels of influenza activity over the last two months.

Respiratory tract infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports weeks 91/19 - 22

Laboratory reports	Number of reports received				Total reports 91/19-22	Cumulative total 1991
	91/19	91/20	91/21	91/22		
Adenovirus (excluding EM faeces)	43	58	64	48	213	1229
Coronavirus	1	1	1	-	3	16
Influenza A	2	-	3	1	6	84
Influenza B	30	36	25	13	104	1903
Parainfluenza	11	27	33	13	84	239
RS virus	61	49	52	24	186	6495
Rhinovirus	6	12	8	4	30	196

Comment

Adenovirus (excluding EM faeces): 54 patients had eye infections, 7 had pneumonia and 14 had bronchiolitis. M 12y and M 15y both had encephalitis.

Influenza A (6 single titres): 2 patients had pneumonia.

Influenza B (1 isolate; 23 rising titres): 23 patients had pneumonia, 2 had bronchiolitis. M 9y had encephalitis, and M 23y had pericarditis. Outbreak in early April at a nursing in Yorkshire affected staff and patients (3 serological confirmations).

Parainfluenza: type 1, 11; type 2, 1; type 3, 67; untyped 5. Two patients had pneumonia, 21 had bronchiolitis and 4 had croup. F 44y had meningitis.

RS virus: 3 regions reported more than 10% cases: Northern (23 cases), Yorkshire (29 cases) and Trent (36). 74% of patients were aged less than 1 year. Three patients had pneumonia, 58 had bronchiolitis and one had croup. M 21y with encephalitis, hepatitis and renal failure had 4-fold rise in antibody to RS virus and herpes simplex. F 74y had Bell's palsy.

Rhinovirus: 3 patients had pneumonia and 4 had bronchiolitis. M 2y had Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

Chlamydia psittaci: 19 patients had pneumonia. 6 patients kept birds (parrots 2, budgerigars 1, mynah birds 1, and 2 unspecified). One farmer was reported with fever and splenomegaly.

Coxiella burnetii: 7 patients had pneumonia. One lives near sheep; one delivers vegetables by van.

Legionella pneumophila: 5 males and 2 females, age range 30-89 years. Recent travel abroad: Spain (Benidorm) 1. Two patients had pneumonia. M 89y had Pontiac fever. HIV-1 antibody positive M 30y also had cytomegalovirus infection.

Mycoplasma pneumoniae: 2 regions reported more than 10% cases: S Western (32 cases) and Wales (25). 26% of the patients were aged less than 14 years and 64% were in the 15-64 years age group. 96 patients had pneumonia. Nine patients had rash, including 3 children and one adult with Stevens-Johnson syndrome and F 48y with erythema multiforme; F 6y had Henoch-Schonlein purpura. Four adults had meningo-encephalitis; M 34y had polyneuritis. F 35y had haemolytic anaemia.

Laboratory reports	Number of reports received				Total reports 91/19-22	Cumulative total 1991
	91/19	91/20	91/21	91/22		
Chlamydia psittaci	2	11	14	7	34	181
Coxiella burnetii	1	2	1	3	7	27
Legionella pneumophila	3	2	2	-	7	56
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	35	57	85	73	250	1232

AIDS and HIV-1 antibody reports - United Kingdom

During May 1991, 102 new cases of AIDS were reported. Seventy-three were probably infected through sexual intercourse between men (5 died); eight through sexual intercourse between men and women (3 died); five through injecting drug use; one through either injecting drug use or sexual intercourse between men; ten through blood factor treatment (7 died) and three through mother to infant transmission. The exposure category of two cases was undetermined.

Since reporting began in 1982, 4666 AIDS cases (4412 men and 254 women) were reported by the end of May 1991, of

whom 2695 were known to have died (Table 1). Sexual orientation and place of first report are shown in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 4 shows cumulative laboratory reports of HIV-1 antibody positive persons. Duplicate reports are recognised through soundex codes and dates of birth. During the quarter January to March 1991, a large number of duplicate reports were removed. The rise in cumulative reports compared with the previous quarter was, therefore, smaller than expected. For the same reason the cumulative total decreased in a few Regions.

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

How persons probably acquired the virus	Jun 89 – May 90		Jun 90 – May 91		Jan 82 – May 91			
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	(Deaths)	Female	(Deaths)
Sexual intercourse								
between men	809	–	955	–	3634	(2126)	–	–
between men and women								
"high risk" partner ¹	4	7	3	7	12	(6)	27	(14)
other partner abroad ²	51	24	78	35	181	(90)	81	(36)
other partner UK	4	5	7	7	17	(10)	16	(7)
Injecting drug use (IDU)	47	10	62	25	148	(62)	52	(26)
IDU & sexual intercourse between men	13	–	21	–	69	(40)	–	–
Blood								
blood factor (e.g. for haemophilia)	45	–	68	2	258	(177)	4	(2)
blood/tissue transfer (e.g. transfusion)								
abroad	2	3	2	9	14	(9)	26	(17)
UK	2	5	2	5	14	(12)	15	(10)
Mother to infant	1	3	7	12	16	(6)	27	(12)
Other/undetermined	8	3	26	2	49	(30)	6	(3)
Total	986	60	1231	104	4412	(2568)	254	(127)

1. Includes men and women who had sex with injecting drug users, or with those infected through blood factor treatment or blood transfusion, 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 May 1991

Sexual orientation	Jun 89 – May 90		Jun 90 – May 91		Jan 82 – May 91	
	Cases	(%)	Cases	(%)	Cases	(%)
Homosexual men	699	(68)	845	(67)	3135	(69)
Bisexual men	123	(12)	132	(10)	571	(13)
Heterosexual men and women	207	(20)	290	(23)	820	(18)
Total ¹	1029	(100)	1267	(100)	4526	(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 returns by Haemophilia Centre Directors to the Oxford Haemophilia Centre (0865-225316), and from monthly returns by paediatricians to the British Paediatric Surveillance Unit (071-935-1866).

Table 3 Geographical distribution of AIDS cases (known deaths¹) by date of report: United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man to 31 May 1991

Country and Region of first report	Jun 89 – May 90		Jun 90 – May 91		Cumulative total since 1982	
	Cases	(Deaths ¹)	Cases	(Deaths ¹)	Cases	(Deaths ¹)
England:						
Northern	13	(6)	25	(5)	87	(49)
Yorkshire	27	(17)	34	(13)	120	(75)
Trent	22	(9)	24	(10)	90	(52)
E Anglia	11	(7)	8	(2)	47	(33)
NW Thames	413	(188)	496	(104)	1823	(1023)
NE Thames	144	(56)	272	(72)	839	(441)
SE Thames	129	(58)	138	(52)	511	(320)
SW Thames	57	(36)	41	(10)	174	(115)
Wessex	20	(12)	41	(18)	111	(71)
Oxford	21	(12)	32	(10)	100	(58)
S Western	21	(11)	18	(6)	83	(53)
W Midlands	28	(16)	37	(8)	107	(58)
Mersey	6	(2)	20	(10)	60	(42)
N Western	51	(28)	54	(14)	189	(112)
Wales	21	(9)	15	(13)	72	(56)
Northern Ireland	8	(7)	5	(4)	24	(21)
Scotland	54	(18)	75	(23)	229	(116)
United Kingdom total	1046	(492)	1335	(374)	4666	(2695)
Ch. Islands/Isle of Man	1	(1)	1	(1)	4	(4)

1. Deaths known to have occurred at any time up to 31 May 1991. Reporting of recent deaths is incomplete.

Table 4 Geographical distribution and exposure category of HIV-1 antibody positive persons: United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man to Week 91/13

Country and Region of first report	Sexual intercourse										Cumulative total Weeks 84/45–91/13	
	between men	between men and women			Injecting ¹ drug use			Blood	Other/Undetermined			
		M	F	Unk.	M	F	Unk.		M	F		Unk.
England:												
Northern	150	22	14	-	45	11	1	97	13	1	-	354
Yorkshire	210	28	29	-	30	19	-	67	12	2	-	397
Trent	205	29	20	-	41	15	-	76	6	4	-	396
E Anglia	95	17	6	-	26	12	-	39	7	2	-	204
NW Thames	3595	116	171	-	264	88	2	69	256	41	19	4621
NE Thames	1516	102	118	7	120	68	2	198	370	42	26	2569
SE Thames	1043	65	74	1	143	58	-	145	119	31	2	1681
SW Thames	222	33	40	1	30	8	-	31	59	9	1	434
Wessex	198	12	19	-	30	8	-	32	22	4	3	328
Oxford	168	19	31	-	44	12	-	114	11	4	-	403
S Western	186	28	22	-	37	6	-	35	12	3	-	329
W Midlands	219	23	29	-	23	4	-	157	47	8	-	510
Mersey	86	11	6	-	9	7	-	48	18	-	-	185
N Western	416	33	17	-	46	23	-	121	26	14	-	696
Wales	112	20	16	-	7	1	-	60	12	1	-	229
N Ireland	41	7	10	-	3	3	-	16	2	-	-	82
Scotland	334	70	106	1	639	297	25	89	177	109	72	1919
United Kingdom total	8796	635	728	10	1537	640	30	1394	1169	275	123	15337
Ch. Islands/Isle of Man	11	2	2	-	4	2	-	2	3	1	-	27

1. Includes 158 male drug users who also had sexual intercourse with other men.

Mycobacterial infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports weeks 91/19–22

Mycobacterium tuberculosis 82: 50 males, 30 females, 2 sex not stated.

Pulmonary infections 66: 41 males, 23 females, 2 sex not stated. 24 were sputum smear positive, 1 patient was aged under 15 years and 17 were aged 65 years or more. 2 males aged 64y and 89y died. 5 isolates were from pleural aspirates and 1 from post mortem lung.

Disseminated 1: F 36y with miliary infection from the Indian subcontinent (ISC).

Meningitis 1: indigenous F 1y (CSF).

Lymph nodes 6: 4 males, 2 females (4 from ISC).

Genitourinary 4: 2 males, 2 females.

Bone/joint 4: 2 males, 2 females, 3 with vertebral osteomyelitis.

Abscess 1: male with thigh abscess.

Breast 1: F 78y with breast lump, histology showed granulomata.

M. bovis 1: M 71y with hip abscess.

M. kansasii 7: 6 adults, 4 aged 65 years or more with pulmonary infections; M 68y with infected olecranon bursa.

Avium-intracellulare group 10: HIV-1 antibody positive M 24y and M 39y (blood isolates); male age not stated (blood isolate). M 31y, F 46y, M 68y with pulmonary infections; M 13y and M 46y with lymphadenopathy; M 1y with osteomyelitis of sternum; M 80y with peritonitis.

M. malmoense 8: all adults, 3 aged 65 years or more, with pulmonary infections (positive sputum smear, 3).

M. fortuitum 3: F 47y with abscess (site not stated); immunocompromised female on steroids, age not stated, had buttock abscess; M 17y with cystic fibrosis had pulmonary infection.

M. marinum 1: male, age not stated, in contact with tropical fish, had skin infection.

M. gordonae-like environmental scotochromogen 1: HIV-1 antibody positive M 38y (sputum).

Bacteraemia and bacterial meningitis, England and Wales: weeks 91/19 - 22

Laboratory reports	No. of reports received		Age		Total received	Cumulative total 1991
	Blood only	CSF only or CSF & blood	<1m	≥65y		
Staphylococci						
S. aureus	327	1	5	152	328 (5)*	1464
Coagulase negative	165	2	16	51	167	987
Streptococci						
group A	43	–	–	23	43	286
group B	47	7	19	10	54	302
group C & G	24	–	–	13	24	171
enterococci	94	1	6	43	95	556
α- and non-haemolytic	108	1	10	37	109	596
S. pneumoniae	259	19	3	143	278	2080

* methicillin-resistant strains of *Staphylococcus aureus*

Bacteraemia

Staphylococci:

S. aureus: 20 of 69 patients with intravascular lines were on haemodialysis; 20 patients had UTI/GU surgery, including 7 women with post partum infections; 12 had pneumonia/lung abscess.

Also reported: F 19y with tampon-associated toxic shock syndrome (vaginal isolate).

Coagulase negative: 3 of 97 patients with intravascular lines were on haemodialysis.

Streptococci:

group A: 15 patients had skin infections including 2 with chickenpox. F 20y had puerperal fever; M 56y with pharyngitis presented with rash and shock; F 58y had peritonitis.

Also reported: M 3y and M 26y with septic arthritis (both joint isolates).

group B: 11 patients had UTI/GU surgery including 6 women with puerperal infections.

Also reported: M 4m who died suddenly (PM lung) and M 58y with septic arthritis (joint).

group C, 7 and **group G**, 17: 6 patients had skin infections and one was on haemodialysis. F 53y with nasopharyngeal tumour

had *fusobacterium sp* also (blood isolates); M 28y with liver abscess had *Escherichia coli* also (blood isolates).

Also reported: **group C**, F 21y with perihepatitis and subphrenic abscess had *Haemophilus parainfluenzae* also (pus isolates). **Group G**, female with septic arthritis (joint isolate).

Enterococci: *S. bovis* 14; *S. cremoris* 2; *S. durans* 1; *S. faecalis* 41; *S. faecium* 13. 17 patients had UTI/GU surgery including two women with post partum infections; 5 had biliary tract disease/surgery.

α- and non-haemolytic: *S. adjacens* 1; *S. lactis* 1; *S. milleri* 17; *S. mitis* 17; *S. mutans* 4; *S. salivarius* 6; *S. sanguis* 48. 4 patients had UTI/GU surgery including 2 women with post partum infections; 8 had biliary tract disease/surgery including three with liver abscesses.

S. pneumoniae: 20 children aged 4 years or less including two neonates, 5 children with pneumonia, M 10m with septic arthritis and M 5m with periorbital cellulitis. 131 other patients had pneumonia/lung abscess. F 58y with myeloma had epiglottitis (blood isolate). M 60y had supraglottitis and F 86y had severe throat infection. F 24y with IUCD and F 48y had peritonitis. Also reported: F 78y with Bartholin abscess (pus).

Laboratory reports	Total bacteraemia	Acute bone/joint	Age		IV/CVP lines	Pace-makers	Endocarditis (with prostheses)	IVDA (with endocarditis)
			<15y	≥65y				
Staphylococci								
S. aureus	327	37	6	15	69	12	12 (3)	2 (1)
Coagulase negative	165	1	1	–	97	4	5 (1)	–
Streptococci								
group A	43	4	2	2	2	–	–	–
group B	47	1	–	1	3	–	–	–
group C & G	24	1	–	1	1	–	–	–
enterococci	94	1	1	–	12	–	13 (3)	–
α and non-haemolytic	108	3	1	–	11	–	29 (4)	–
S. pneumoniae	259	5	–	3	5	–	2 (–)	–

Meningitis

Staphylococcus aureus: F 47y with CSF shunt.

S. epidermidis: M 4m and M 5y with CSF shunts.

Streptococci: group B: 3 neonates and one baby aged 1 month; F 29y (blood isolate only); M 48y with endocarditis; diabetic M 60y and diabetic M 67y with septic arthritis also (joint, blood, CSF isolates).

group C: F 62y with meningitis (blood isolate only).

S. avium: M 49y with cerebral abscess (pus isolate).

S. faecalis: F 15y with CSF shunt.

S. salivarius: F 1y with hydrocephalus.

S. pneumoniae: 8 children aged 4 years or less (blood isolate only, 1) including one neonate and M 3y who died after penetrating injury through orbit (meningeal and orbital isolates); 10 patients aged 5-64 years (blood isolate only, 1) including M 39y with pneumonia (CSF isolate); 6 aged 65 years or more (blood isolate only, 2). Also reported: M 5y with cerebellar abscess (brain isolate).

Unusual infections

Agrobacterium sp: immunocompromised M 16y with IV-line (blood isolate).

Bacillus sp 2: F 23y (blood isolate). *B. cereus*, F 81y (blood isolate).

Diphtheroids 4: immunosuppressed M 84y (blood isolate).

C. jeikeium 3: M 29y and M 71y with leukaemia had IV-lines; M 72y (all blood isolates).

Gemella morbillorum: M 64y with endocarditis (blood isolate).

Providencia sp 3: *P. rettgeri*, F 82y (blood isolate). *P. stuartii*, F 79y and F 87y with urinary tract disease (both blood isolate).

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