

Communicable Disease Report

A case of tetanus

A case of clinical tetanus has been reported in a 69 year old farmer. He was admitted to a coronary care unit complaining of chest pain and jaw spasm and required artificial ventilation. *Clostridium tetani* and *Staphylococcus aureus* were isolated from an abscess that developed in his foot during admission. He had previously cut this area with a pen knife used to clean his horses' hooves. He was given tetanus immunoglobulin and made a full recovery despite developing severe trismus and a chest infection. He gave a history of having received a primary course of immunisation followed by a booster dose in 1983. Blood taken before tetanus immunoglobulin was given showed a level of specific IgG compatible with having had a booster in 1983.

Nine cases of tetanus were notified during 1990, one of whom died. There have been eight notifications so far this year and two of these cases died. Two further deaths have been recorded that had not previously been notified. As part of the surveillance of tetanus, CDSC would be grateful for any information on patients with clinical tetanus or from whom *C. tetani* has been isolated. Blood samples for tetanus antibody may be sent to Hereford PHL.

The British Paediatric Surveillance Unit

The British Paediatric Surveillance Unit (BPSU) has just published its fifth annual report. The Unit is a joint venture of the British Paediatric Association, the PHLS Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre and the department of epidemiology at the Institute of Child Health. It also works closely with the Communicable Diseases (Scotland) Unit and the Faculty of Paediatrics of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. The BPSU represents a unique surveillance and research facility through its active case ascertainment methodology which is designed for population-based studies of uncommon childhood disorders.

The Annual Report provides summary updates on recent and current surveys including AIDS/HIV, Reye's syndrome, Kawasaki disease, SSPE, congenital toxoplasmosis, acute rheumatic fever, MMR associated meningoencephalitis, congenital rubella, neonatal herpes, Rett syndrome and galactosaemia. New categories reportable this year include acute flaccid paralysis (as part of the WHO requirement for certification of a country as having eliminated poliomyelitis), and haemophagocytic lymphocytic histiocytosis.

The report is available from the Administrator at the BPSU office, British Paediatric Association, 5 St Andrew's Place, London NW1 4LB (telephone 071 935 1866). BPSU respondents are mainly consultant paediatricians but also include some infectious disease physicians. Clinicians who care for children and who do not receive the BPSU monthly mailing are invited to join the scheme and should contact the Administrator at the above address.

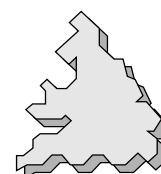
Salmonella infections:
weeks 91/36 - 39

Other gastrointestinal tract infections:
weeks 91/36 - 39

Gastrointestinal virus infections:
weeks 91/36 - 39

Bacteraemia and bacterial meningitis:
weeks 91/36 - 39

Unusual infections



Salmonella infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports weeks 91/36 – 39

Serotype	Reports to CDSC					Reports from DEP
	91/36	91/37	91/38	91/39	Total	Total
<i>S. enteritidis</i> (PT4)	445 (322) *	471 (332) *	637 (488) *	629 (475) *	2182 (1617) *	2755 (2196) *
<i>S. typhimurium</i>	113	139	179	184	615	879
<i>S. virchow</i>	18	25	25	20	88	122
<i>S. agona</i>	9	6	17	13	45	34
<i>S. bredeney</i>	7	5	6	13	31	32
<i>S. newport</i>	3	4	10	9	26	25
<i>S. infantis</i>	8	1	6	10	25	33
<i>S. hadar</i>	5	2	6	4	17	34
<i>S. montevideo</i>	1	2	8	6	17	21
<i>S. heidelberg</i>	1	6	3	5	15	25
<i>S. blockley</i>	5	3	3	1	12	8
<i>S. panama</i>	–	1	4	5	10	15
<i>S. thompson</i>	3	3	1	3	10	14
Other serotypes	28	31	42	39	140	252
Total	646	699	947	941	3233	4249

* *S. enteritidis* PT4

Less than 10 laboratory reports of the following serotypes were received by CDSC during this period:

- 8: *S. java*, *S. kedougou*, *S. livingstone*.
 7: *S. corvallis*, *S. saint-paul*, *S. stanley*.
 6: *S. mbandaka*.
 5: *S. anatum*, *S. schwarzengrund*, *S. senftenberg*.
 4: *S. bovis-morbificans*, *S. braenderup*, *S. manhattan*.
 3: *S. bareilly*, *S. brandenburg*, *S. derby*, *S. havana*, *S. newington*, *S. oranienburg*.
 2: *S. albany*, *S. emek*, *S. give*, *S. javiana*, *S. kentucky*, *S. kottbus*, *S. liverpool*, *S. london*, *S. muenchen*, *S. ohio*, *S. richmond*.
 1: *S. abony*, *S. agama*, *S. berta*, *S. bonn*, *S. chameleon*, *S. cremieu*, *S. gaminara*, *S. goelzau*, *S. gold-coast*, *S. irumu*, *S. kapemba*, *S. kingston*, *S. kinshasa*, *S. kintambo*, *S. krefeld*, *S. muenster*, *S. reading*, *S. rissen*, *S. singapore*, *S. sofia*, *S. wassenaar*, *S. weltevreden*.

Comment

***S. enteritidis* PT4:** 46/84 persons had diarrhoea and abdominal

pain 3-4 days after a meal at a hotel (31 persons were positive). 20/47 persons had D&V one day after a canteen meal; epidemiological investigations demonstrated a significant association between illness and eating chocolate soufflé (7 persons were positive). Ten persons were ill after eating trifle or custard slices from a mobile shop (10 persons and trifle were positive). 21/39 persons in a nursing home had D&V (22 persons were positive). Six persons had diarrhoea about 18 hours after an Indian takeaway meal (9 persons were positive). 9/13 guests at a birthday party had D&V about 48 hours later (4/6 persons were positive). **PT 24:** a number of persons in the community had D&V (10 persons were positive and 5 were positive for *S. typhimurium* DT 208). **Untyped:** 20/40 persons were ill after a party at which prawn vols au vent were served (7 persons were positive).

***S. typhimurium* DT 49:** 12 persons in the community, all from different households, have had D&V since August (12 persons positive). **Untyped:** 19 persons in a residential home had D&V (22/50 persons were positive).

Food poisoning notifications from OPCS

	Number of notifications				Total notifications 91/36–39	Cumulative total 1991
	91/36	91/37	91/38	91/39		
Formally notified §	1030	1144	1091	1134	4399	26094
Otherwise ascertained §	601	590	570	515	2276	13846

§ provisional

Bacillus cereus: 4/5 persons were ill after eating at a Chinese restaurant (4 persons were positive). 5/15 persons had vomiting about 2 hours after a meal at a pub; all those who ate rice, which had been prepared 2 days before, were ill (5 persons were positive).

***Clostridium perfringens* serotype 55:** 17/72 persons had diarrhoea after a wedding reception meal which included turkey that had been cooked the previous day, refrigerated overnight, then reheated for 2 hours before serving (6 persons and turkey were positive).

Other gastrointestinal tract infections: laboratory reports weeks 91/36 – 39

Laboratory reports	Number of reports received				Total reports 91/36-39 (acquired abroad)	Cumulative total 1991
	91/36	91/37	91/38	91/39		
<i>Campylobacter</i>	651	825	918	786	3180 (397)	24796
<i>Shigella</i>	143	119	153	142	557 (119)	6560
Enteropathogenic <i>E. coli</i> (children <3 years)	22	20	28	18	88 (3)	547
<i>Aeromonas</i>	9	11	9	8	37 (6)	192
<i>Plesiomonas</i>	1	2	3	2	8 (5)	38
<i>Vibrio</i>	3	2	5	1	11 (9)	50
<i>Clostridium difficile</i>	6	20	15	13	54 (1)	648
<i>Yersinia</i>	17	14	18	11	60 (8)	330

Comment

Campylobacter: one region reported more than 10% cases: Trent (360 cases). Twenty-three outbreaks were reported: 22 family outbreaks and one at a wedding reception.

Shigella: *S. boydii* 4 (3 abroad); *S. dysenteriae* 7 (all abroad); *S. flexneri* 57 (38 abroad); *S. sonnei* 489 (71 abroad). *S. sonnei*: 16 outbreaks were reported; 15 family outbreaks and one in a school. Continuing community outbreaks in Yorkshire and N Western regions. One family outbreak of *S. flexneri* 2a was reported.

Notifications of dysentery for this period were: 123, 154, 152 and 191 respectively; the cumulative total for 1991 is 5657.

Aeromonas: *A. caviae* 1; *A. hydrophila* 30 (4 abroad); *A. sobria* 5 (1 abroad); *Aeromonas sp* 1 (abroad).

Vibrio: *V. cholerae* non O1, 10 (9 abroad); *V. parahaemolyticus* 1.

Clostridium difficile: 4 regions reported more than 10% cases: Yorkshire (6 cases), NW Thames (7), SE Thames (12) and

Wessex (19).

Yersinia: *Y. enterocolitica* 49 (6 abroad); *Y. frederiksenii* 9 (1 abroad); *Y. pseudotuberculosis* 1 (abroad); *Yersinia sp* 1. One family outbreak of *Y. enterocolitica* was reported.

Cryptosporidium: 3 regions reported more than 10% cases: SE Thames (54 cases), W Midlands (53) and N Western (55). Thirteen outbreaks were reported: 12 family outbreaks and one in a nursery.

Giardia: 2 regions reported more than 10% cases: NE Thames (70 cases) and SW Thames (86). Twenty-one family outbreaks were reported.

Entamoeba histolytica: 2 family outbreaks were reported.

Taenia sp 5: *T. saginata* 3. *Taenia sp* 2 (Turkey 1).

Trichostrongylus 1.

Trichuris 38: (Bangladesh 2, India, Jamaica, Somalia, Turkey, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Zaire, Africa, Asia, 1 each).

Laboratory reports	Number of reports received				Total reports 91/36-39 (acquired abroad)	Cumulative total 1991
	91/36	91/37	91/38	91/39		
<i>Cryptosporidium</i>	92	112	146	143	493 (32)	3794
<i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>	13	37	6	57	113 (70)	777
<i>Giardia</i>	129	165	169	191	654 (168)	4317
<i>Blastocystis hominis</i>	4	8	1	22	35 (-)	169
<i>Dientamoeba fragilis</i>	-	2	-	-	2 (-)	48

Gastrointestinal virus infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports weeks 91/36 – 39

Laboratory reports	Number of reports received				Total reports 91/36-39	Cumulative total 1991
	91/36	91/37	91/38	91/39		
Adenovirus (EM faeces)	20	20	28	15	83	968
Adenovirus type 40/41	-	-	1	2	3	63
Astrovirus	1	-	-	1	2	204
Calicivirus	-	3	2	-	5	72
Rotavirus	36	40	73	39	188	11526
SRSV	5	16	3	4	28	490

Adenovirus (EM faeces): 4 regions reported more than 10% cases: Trent (19 cases), NW Thames (11), S Western (11) and W Midlands (11).

Rotavirus: 3 regions reported more than 10% cases: Yorkshire (37 cases), Trent (19) and W Midlands (53). Two family

outbreaks were reported.

SRSV: 2 regions reported more than 3 cases: Yorkshire (7 cases) and N Western (10). Three outbreaks were reported: one family outbreak and 2 in hospitals.

Typhoid and paratyphoid, England and Wales: laboratory reports weeks 91/36 – 39

S. typhi: 11 cases aged 4-54 years were reported; 10 from the Indian subcontinent and one from Africa. One excreter was reported (M 36y).

S. paratyphi A: 13 cases aged 16-50 years were reported, all from the Indian subcontinent.

S. paratyphi B: 2 cases aged 45 and 59 years were reported, one from the Indian subcontinent and one from Africa.

Notifications: 16 cases of typhoid and 15 of paratyphoid were statutorily notified (weeks 91/36-39).

Laboratory reports	No. of reports received		Age		Total received	Cumulative total 1991
	Blood only	CSF only or CSF & blood	<1m	≥65y		
<i>Citrobacter sp</i>	16	–	–	5	16	155
<i>Enterobacter sp</i>	90	1	3	35	91	720
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	600	2	11	375	602	5718
<i>Klebsiella sp</i>	150	1	1	91	151	1214
<i>Proteus sp</i>	108	–	1	75	108	1010
<i>Salmonella sp</i>	44	–	–	15	44	208

Bacteraemia

Citrobacter sp: *C. freundii* 14; *C. koseri* 2. *C. freundii*, M 68y had septic arthritis.

Enterobacter sp: *E. aerogenes* 3; *E. agglomerans* 8; *E. cloacae* 71; *E. sakazakii* 2. *E. cloacae*, M 61y and M 65y had endocarditis and M 13y had acute arthritis. *E. agglomerans*, M 36y injecting drug user.

Escherichia coli: M 5m and F 67y had septic arthritis. F 76y after blood transfusion and from blood bag. M 1y with bursitis. Also reported: *E. coli* 0157, M 2y with haemolytic uraemic syndrome (serology only).

Klebsiella sp: *K. aerogenes* 45; *K. oxytoca* 28; *K. ozaenae* 1; *K. pneumoniae* 60. *K. aerogenes*, F 80y with osteomyelitis.

Proteus sp: *P. mirabilis* 73; *P. morgani* 15; *P. penneri* 1; *P. vulgaris* 6.

Salmonella sp: *S. enteritidis* 15 (PT4, 10): 10 patients aged 1-79

years with gastrointestinal symptoms and/or faecal isolate also. Five patients with blood isolates only: M 30y with sickle cell anaemia and pyrexia; F 79y with pyrexia; M 69y died; M 74y with gastrointestinal symptoms; F 1y with febrile convulsions. *S. typhimurium* 9: 7 patients aged 55-73 years with gastrointestinal symptoms and blood and faecal isolates. Also M 75y with aortic aneurysm died, F 54y with gastrointestinal symptoms (both blood isolates). *S. virchow* 2: F 85y and M 34y (both blood isolates).

Also reported: *S. brandenburg*, M 32y with septic arthritis and osteomyelitis (bone). *S. enteritidis* PT4, M 42y died (spleen). *S. infantis*, F 23y with urinary tract infection (urine). *S. livingstone*, F 44y (urine). *S. Newport*, F 59y (urine). *S. virchow*, M 4y with recurrent urinary tract infection and diarrhoea (faeces and urine).

Laboratory reports	Total bacteraemia	UTI/GU surgery (pregnant)	Biliary tract disease (ERCP)	Intravascular lines	Leukaemia/bone marrow suppression (with IV-lines)
<i>Citrobacter sp</i>	16	2 (–)	1 (–)	1	3 (–)
<i>Enterobacter sp</i>	90	10 (–)	12 (–)	2	21 (9)
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	600	220 (15)	60 (5)	9	31 (2)
<i>Klebsiella sp</i>	150	44 (2)	25 (1)	9	23 (7)
<i>Proteus sp</i>	108	56 (2)	2 (–)	1	3 (1)

Meningitis

Enterobacter sp: M 51y.

Escherichia coli: 2 babies aged 2 days and 7 days (CSF

isolates) and M 16d, M 15y and M 84y (blood isolate only).

Klebsiella aerogenes: F 13d.

Unusual infections

Bacillus sp: *B. megaterium*, *B. licheniformis* and *B. sphaericus*: male with post-traumatic vitreous abscess (eye isolate). *B. subtilis*: F 45y with leukaemia (blood isolate).

Campylobacter sp: HIV-1 antibody positive M 52y with

diarrhoea and vomiting (blood isolate).

Plesiomonas shigelloides: female, age not stated, with gastrointestinal symptoms (blood isolate).

Yersinia enterocolitica: M 72y (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