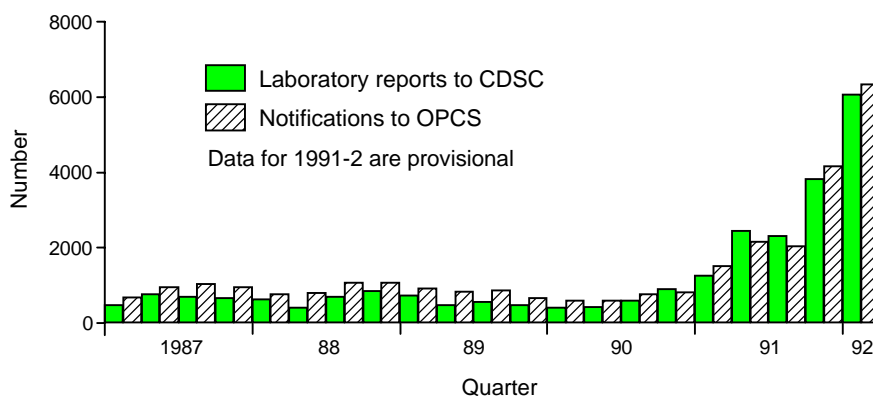


## Communicable Disease Report

### Dysentery due to *Shigella* infection

CDSC received 6061 reports of *Shigella sonnei* isolations from laboratories in England and Wales in the first quarter of 1992. This compares with 1255 reports received in the first quarter of 1991. The numbers of laboratory reports have shown a marked increase since the beginning of 1991 and the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) has recorded a similar increase in the numbers of dysentery notifications received over the same period (Figure). Most of the reported cases have been in children less than 10 years of age. The annual total of laboratory reports for 1991 of 9830 was the highest since 1969, when 23,091 reports were received. Annual reporting levels ranged from 11,000 to 43,000

Figure Dysentery notifications and laboratory reports of *Shigella sonnei* infection



during the 1950s and 1960s.

Currently, reporting levels are particularly high in Yorkshire and North Western regions. The recent increase was first noted in Grimsby (Humberside), Salford (Greater Manchester) and Bradford (West Yorkshire) in the last quarter of 1990. Since then, increased reports of *S. sonnei* dysentery have come from the following conurbations: Greater Manchester; Humberside; West Yorkshire; South Yorkshire; West Midlands; Teeside; Tyneside; Preston/Blackburn; Bristol, and Cardiff. Reports of dysentery appear to have abated in Bristol and Cardiff but a high level of infection continues in other areas. *S. sonnei* dysentery has recently been reported in schools in North West Thames and South East Thames regions. A foodborne outbreak associated with a reception in East Anglia was reported in January 1992 (*Communicable Disease Report 1992*; 2: 33). Outbreaks usually start in junior or nursery schools and control measures rely on meticulous attention to toilet hygiene and an appropriate exclusion policy for infected cases<sup>1</sup>.

Isolates from most of the current community outbreaks of *S. sonnei* have been typed for colicin production and antibiotic resistance pattern by Guildford Public Health Laboratory. Colicin type 9 currently predominates in the West Midlands, Preston/Blackburn and Tyneside, type 4 is largely responsible for the outbreaks in Bradford/Leeds and Humberside whereas a variety of strains are present in Greater Manchester. *S. sonnei* became prevalent in the 1950s and less than 25% of shigella infections have been due to *S. flexneri* in recent years. Most of the latter infections are contracted abroad (mostly in the Indian subcontinent).

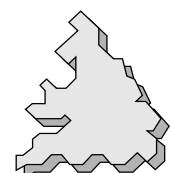
1. CDSC. Quarterly Communicable Disease Review: April to June 1991. *J Public Health Med* 1991; 13: 332-41.

**Salmonella infections:**  
weeks 92/13 - 15

**Gastrointestinal virus infections:**  
weeks 92/13 - 15

**Other gastrointestinal tract infections:**  
weeks 92/13 - 15

**Bacteraemia and bacterial meningitis:**  
weeks 92/13 - 15



## Salmonella infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 92/13 – 15

Serotype	Reports to the PHLS (Salmonella dataset †)			Total reports 92/13-15
	92/13	92/14	92/15	
<i>S. enteritidis</i> (PT4)	210 (194)	175 (154)	338 (306)	723 (654)
<i>S. typhimurium</i>	48	30	102	180
<i>S. virchow</i>	8	10	20	38
<i>S. newport</i>	1	2	9	12
<i>S. hadar</i>	4	2	4	12
<i>Salmonella</i> sp.*	9	7	111	127
Other serotypes	34	29	53	116
Total	314	255	639	1208

† This dataset is described in CDR volume 1, number 51. \* Includes organisms reported without further identification as well as those yet to be identified by DEP.

Less than 10 laboratory reports of the following serotypes were recorded during weeks 92/13-15:

- 8: *S. bredeney*.  
 7: *S. agona*.  
 5: *S. mbandaka*.  
 4: *S. blockley*, *S. heidelberg*, *S. panama*, *S. senftenberg*.  
 3: *S. java*, *S. kedougou*, *S. montevideo*, *S. oranienburg*.  
 2: *S. bareilly*, *S. bovis-morbificans*, *S. braenderup*, *S. chester*,  
*S. derby*, *S. duisburg*, *S. emek*, *S. havana*, *S. indiana*, *S. infantis*,  
*S. kentucky*, *S. richmond*, *S. thompson*, *S. weltevreden*.  
 1: *S. albany*, *S. anatum*, *S. brandenburg*, *S. coleypark*, *S. cubana*,  
*S. eastbourne*, *S. fischerstrasse*, *S. flint*, *S. galiema*, *S. idikan*,  
*S. kapemba*, *S. kibusi*, *S. krefeld*, *S. litchfield*, *S. liverpool*,  
*S. london*, *S. manhattan*, *S. matopeni*, *S. muenchen*,

*S. muenster*, *S. nordenham*, *S. ohio*, *S. poona*, *S. saint-paul*,  
*S. schwarzengrund*, *S. stanleyville*, *S. uganda*.

### Comment

***S. bredeney***: 1 adult and 3 children with D&V had all eaten food from the same fish and chip shop (4 persons were positive).

***S. enteritidis* PT4**: 11 residents and staff at an elderly persons' home had D&V in February (11 persons); 3 persons at a school (3 persons); five persons were ill after eating meals from a takeaway restaurant (5 persons).

**Scombrototoxin**: a man had tingling in the mouth, numbness and headache after eating smoked mackerel (100mg histamine/100g mackerel flesh).

## Food poisoning notifications from OPCS

	Number of notifications			Total notifications 92/13-15	Cumulative total 1992
	92/13	92/14	92/15		
Formally notified §	482	735	525	1742	7004
Otherwise ascertained §	244	501	273	1018	3930

§ provisional

## Gastrointestinal virus infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 92/13 – 15

Laboratory reports	Number of reports received			Total reports 92/13-15	Cumulative total 1992
	92/13	92/14	92/15		
Adenovirus (EM faeces)	28	25	34	87	521
Adenovirus type 40/41	2	3	1	6	37
Astrovirus	11	4	11	26	198
Calicivirus	2	7	4	13	55
Rotavirus	915	493	746	2154	11450
SRSV	14	7	15	36	284

**Adenovirus** (EM faeces): five regions reported more than 10% of cases: Trent (11 cases), S Western (9), W Midlands (10), N Western (17) and Wales (10).

**Adenovirus 40/41**: NW Thames region reported 4 cases.  
**Astrovirus**: two regions reported more than 10% of cases: Northern (5 cases) and N Western (6).

**Rotavirus:** three regions reported more than 10% of cases: Yorkshire (322 cases), Trent (232) and W Midlands (304). Twenty-nine outbreaks were reported, including 27 family outbreaks and one in an old people's home.

**SRSV:** four regions reported more than 10% of cases: Yorkshire (4 cases), Trent (7), Oxford (4) and N Western (11). Four outbreaks were reported: 3 in hospitals and one in a residential care home.

### Other gastrointestinal tract infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 92/13 – 15

Laboratory reports	Number of reports received			Total reports 92/13-15 (acquired abroad)	Cumulative total 1992
	92/13	92/14	92/15		
<i>Campylobacter</i>	522	353	420	1295 (151)	6341
<i>Shigella</i>	746	572	499	1817 (39)	7316
Enteropathogenic <i>E. coli</i> (children <3 years)	11	13	4	28 (1)	157
<i>Aeromonas</i>	4	4	7	15 (2)	65
<i>Plesiomonas</i>	3	2	3	8 (3)	18
<i>Vibrio</i>	1	–	1	2 (1)	10
<i>Clostridium difficile</i>	21	14	26	61 (–)	333
<i>C. difficile</i> toxin	59	28	24	111 (–)	561
<i>Yersinia</i>	5	8	7	20 (–)	91

#### Comment

**Campylobacter:** two regions reported more than 10% of cases: Trent (140 cases) and N Western (135). Fifteen outbreaks were reported: 14 family outbreaks and one in a school.

**Shigella:** *S. boydii* 2 (1 abroad); *S. dysenteriae* 4 (3 abroad); *S. flexneri* 46 (18 abroad); *S. sonnei* 1756 (17 abroad). *S. sonnei*, one outbreak in a playgroup, and community outbreaks in Yorkshire, Trent, W Midlands and N Western regions, were reported.

Notifications of dysentery for weeks 92/13-15 were 621, 601

and 585, respectively; the cumulative total for 1992 is 7518.

**Aeromonas:** *A. caviae* 3; *A. hydrophila* 8 (1 abroad); *A. sobria* 3 (1 abroad); *Aeromonas sp* 1.

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

**Clostridium difficile:** four regions reported more than 10% of cases: Trent (7 cases), SE Thames (8), Wessex (8) and Wales (15). One outbreak in a geriatric ward was reported.

**Yersinia:** *Y. enterocolitica* 13; *Y. frederiksenii* 1; *Y. pseudotuberculosis* 2; *Yersinia sp* 4.

Laboratory reports	Number of reports received			Total reports 92/13-15 (acquired abroad)	Cumulative total 1992
	92/13	92/14	92/15		
<i>Cryptosporidium</i>	85	41	84	210 (2)	921
<i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>	37	8	36	81 (42)	309
<i>Giardia</i>	133	92	122	347 (76)	1697
<i>Blastocystis hominis</i>	18	1	11	30 (15)	82
<i>Dientamoeba fragilis</i>	1	–	6	7 (4)	20

**Cryptosporidium:** two regions reported more than 10% of cases: S Western (42 cases) and N Western (46). Five family outbreaks and a community outbreak in Northern region were reported.

**Giardia:** one region reported more than 10% of cases: NE

Thames (55 cases). Thirteen family outbreaks were reported.

**Taenia** 8: *T. saginata* 7 (Ethiopia 2, Kenya 1); *Taenia sp* 1.

**Trichostrongylus** 5.

**Trichuris** 46: *T. trichiura* 31 (Vietnam 7, Ethiopia 3, Zaire 2, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, 1 each); *Trichuris sp* 15 (Hong Kong 5, Jamaica 1).

### Typhoid and paratyphoid, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 92/13 – 15

**S. typhi:** 11 cases aged 1-39 years were reported (all from the Indian subcontinent). One excreter was reported (F 32y).

**S. paratyphi A:** 6 cases aged 7-29 years were reported: 3 from the Indian subcontinent (including a mother and daughter),

2 from the Far East and one from East Africa.

Notifications: 11 cases of typhoid and 3 of paratyphoid fever were statutorily notified (weeks 92/13-15).

## Bacteraemia and bacterial meningitis, England and Wales: weeks 92/13 – 15

Laboratory reports of blood and CSF isolates of bacteria are grouped into four categories and published in a weekly sequence:

1. Staphylococci and streptococci (excluding anaerobic cocci).
2. Enterobacteriaceae ie, *Citrobacter*, *Enterobacter*, *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella*, *Proteus* and *Salmonella species*.
3. Environmental and anaerobic bacteria ie, *Bacteroides*, *Clostridia*, *Acinetobacter*, *Aeromonas*, *Pseudomonas*, *Serratia* and anaerobic cocci.
4. *Neisseria meningitidis*, *Haemophilus species* and *Listeria monocytogenes*.

This week's CDR contains reports for category 2. Less commonly reported causes of bacteraemia or bacterial meningitis are listed under **unusual infections**.

Laboratory reports	No. of reports received		Age		Total received 92/13-15	Cumulative total 1992
	Blood only	CSF only or CSF & blood	<1m	≥65y		
<i>Citrobacter sp</i>	13	–	–	7	13	63
<i>Enterobacter sp</i>	46	–	1	19	46	258
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	416	4	9	288	420	2301
<i>Klebsiella sp</i>	73	–	–	44	73	455
<i>Proteus sp</i>	65	–	–	50	65	396
<i>Salmonella sp</i>	21	–	–	9	21	82

### Bacteraemia

***Citrobacter sp***: *C. freundii* 7; *C. koseri* 4; *Citrobacter sp* 2. *C. freundii*, M 59y had infection following coronary artery bypass graft (*Pseudomonas sp* also isolated from blood).

***Enterobacter sp***: *E. aerogenes* 4; *E. agglomerans* 11; *E. cloacae* 25; *E. sakazakii* 3; *Enterobacter sp* 3. *E. cloacae*, M 47y had infection following coronary artery bypass graft (blood and surgical wound isolate); F 40y with burns.

***Escherichia coli***: 3 premature neonates; 4 patients aged 20-82 years had pyelonephritis; M 59y with leukaemia had septic arthritis and subphrenic abscess; M 68y with necrotic gall bladder and IV-line had previous splenectomy; M 75y had osteomyelitis; male, age not stated, on peritoneal dialysis; F 31y with sickle cell anaemia; F 64y had urinary tract infection and meningitis. Two women had septic abortion and 2 had post partum infection, including one after Caesarean section.

***Klebsiella sp***: *K. aerogenes* 22; *K. oxytoca* 15; *K. pneumoniae* 33; *Klebsiella sp* 3. *K. aerogenes*, M 58y on haemodialysis. *K. pneumoniae*, F 63y on haemodialysis.

Also reported: *K. oxytoca*, M 11y and F 65y (both peritoneal dialysate isolates).

***Proteus sp***: *P. mirabilis* 51; *P.morganii* 9; *P. vulgaris* 2; *Proteus sp* 3. *P. mirabilis*, M 38y had liver abscess; M 59y had craniotomy with ventricular drain; M 66y had infection after

coronary artery bypass graft; F 17y had infection after Caesarean section; F 76y had prosthetic heart valve.

Also reported: *P. vulgaris*, F 66y (pleural fluid aspirate isolate).

***Salmonella sp***: *S. bredeney* 1; *S. enteritidis* PT4 13; *S. hull* 1; *S. london* 1; *S. typhimurium* 2; *S. virchow* 2; unnamed salmonella 1. Eleven patients had blood isolate only; 7 had faecal isolate also; 3 had urine isolate also. Twelve patients aged 6 months - 89 years had gastrointestinal symptoms. *S. enteritidis* PT4, HIV-1 antibody positive male, age not stated; M 64y with pyrexia and M 89y with urinary symptoms (both blood and urine isolates).

Also reported: *S. agama*, F 52y (urine isolate). *S. enteritidis* 3 (PT 4, 2); F 15y (bone isolate); F 47y with subcutaneous abscess (pus isolate); F 94y (ear isolate). *S. newport*, M 22y with cystic fibrosis (sputum and faecal isolates). *S. panama*, F 79y (urine isolate). *S. typhimurium* 3: F 19y, F 39y who was part of a household outbreak, and male, age not stated (all urine isolates).

### Meningitis

***Escherichia coli***: F 21d (blood and CSF isolates), F 1y with CSF shunt, F 39y following neurosurgery (surgical wound and CSF isolates), and F 82y.

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>	13	3 (–)	1 (1)	–	2 (–)
<i>Enterobacter sp</i>	46	7 (–)	3 (–)	6	9 (3)
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	416	163 (4)	46 (2)	5	31 (4)
<i>Klebsiella sp</i>	73	18 (–)	13 (1)	9	12 (4)
<i>Proteus sp</i>	65	39 (–)	1 (–)	3	2 (1)

Data are for England and Wales only, unless otherwise stated.

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