



NEWS

Main stories this week:

Enteric (cont)

ENTERIC

National increase in *Salmonella* Enteritidis PT 14b – update

Common gastrointestinal infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 36-39/02

RESPIRATORY

IMMUNISATION

Outbreak of legionnaires' – disease associated with visits to Belgium – update

Less common gastrointestinal infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 27-39/02

HIV/STIs

BACTERAEMIA

Enteric

Surveillance of *Shigella boydii* and *S. dysenteriae* infection in England and Wales: 2001

ZOONOSES

TRAVEL HEALTH

General outbreaks of foodborne illness, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 36-39/02

PRIMARY CARE

DIARY

BACK ISSUES

Salmonella infections (faecal specimens), England and Wales: reports to the PHLS

SEARCH

Published by: PHLS
Communicable
Disease Surveillance
Centre

If you have any comments or encounter any problems with this website, please contact cdr@phls.org.uk

- NEWS
- ENTERIC
- RESPIRATORY
- IMMUNISATION
- HIV/STIs
- BACTERAEMIA
- ZOONOSES
- TRAVEL HEALTH
- PRIMARY CARE
- DIARY
- BACK ISSUES
- SEARCH

News

Last updated: 10 October 2002
Next update due: 17 October 2002

Contents

[National increase in *Salmonella* Enteritidis PT 14b – update](#)

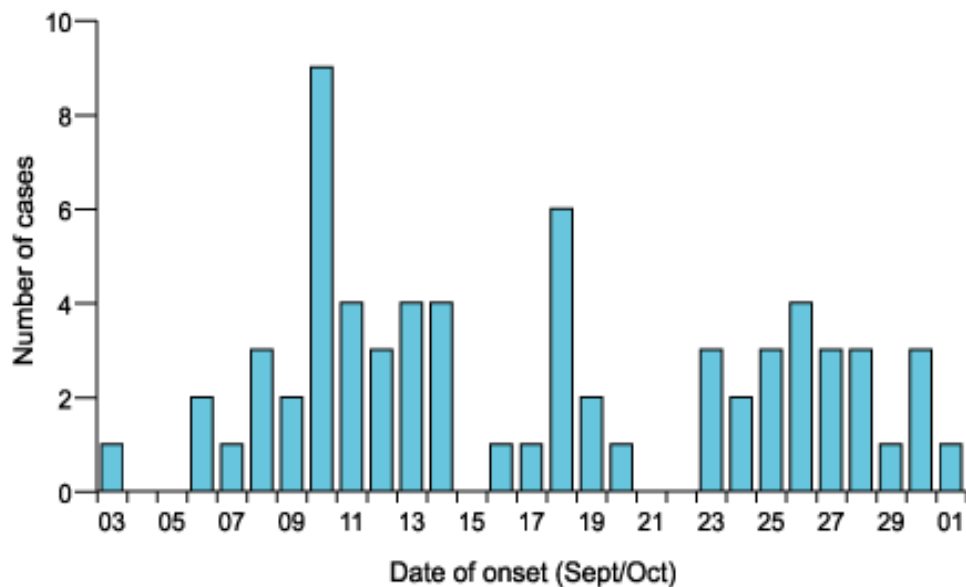
[Outbreak of legionnaires' disease associated with visits to Belgium – update](#)

[Top |](#)

National increase in *Salmonella* Enteritidis PT 14b

One hundred and thirty-four confirmed cases of *Salmonella* Enteritidis PT 14b (not known to be linked with foreign travel) have been reported to the PHLS/CDSC by the PHLS Laboratory of Enteric Pathogens (LEP) since 26 September 2002. The earliest onset is the 3 September and the latest onset date so far reported is the 1 October 2002 (figure 1). Eight people are known to have been admitted to hospital.

Figure 1 Epidemic curve (N=67)



In addition to an outbreak in London and the south east, an outbreak has now been reported in the north west of England. Plasmid analysis, carried out on a selection of isolates from patients considered to be part of the outbreak, shows that the strains are identical to each other and to the type strain. Included in this are a number of isolates from cases in London, the south east, and the north west. Strains acquired in Greece and Portugal are clearly different from the outbreak strain. Further molecular typing is in progress.

A national case-control study is underway and food and environmental investigations are continuing.

CDSC would be grateful to hear of any other local outbreaks of *Salmonella* Enteritidis phage type 14b urgently. Please contact Sarah O'Brien (tel: 020 8200 6868 ext 4422) or Bob Adak (ext 4551); email gisection@phls.org.uk.

[Top](#) |

Outbreak of legionnaires' disease associated with visits to Belgium

Six cases of legionnaires' disease have been reported in United Kingdom residents who have stayed at a hotel in Belgium in the ten days before onset of their illness. The six cases are between 63 and 84 years involving three men, one of whom has died, and three women. They became ill between 7 and 28 September 2002. All six have been diagnosed with infection due to *L. pneumophila* serogroup 1, one by culture of the organism and five by urinary antigen detection. Three of the six cases have been admitted to hospital in France. Three further possible cases in UK residents are being investigated.

The six confirmed cases stayed at the hotel in Belgium as members of three different groups. The first person to fall ill travelled in a small group which stayed for one night only in the Belgian hotel. No further illness has been identified in this group. The next three cases stayed at the hotel as part of a larger group on the first night of their tour and subsequently stayed in two further hotels in Germany and Austria. The two most recent cases stayed with a different tour group at the Belgian hotel for the first night of their tour and then at two different hotels in Germany and Austria. The three further possible cases were on the same or similar tours. All travel to the continent by the confirmed and suspected cases has been by channel ferry. There have been no reports of illness associated with ferry travel among other travellers.

All other members of the tour parties, among whom cases have been confirmed, have been informed about the outbreak and advised to seek medical attention if they develop relevant symptoms. All countries participating in the European surveillance scheme for travel associated legionnaires' disease (EWGLINET), which includes Belgium, Germany, and Austria have been informed of the outbreak. Health inspectors in Belgium have isolated legionella in the hotel water system and have closed the hotel while they conduct control measures.

Useful Links

1. The European Working Group for Legionella Infections < <http://www.ewgli.org> >
2. Joseph C. Outbreak of legionnaires' disease associated with visits to Belgium. *Eurosurveillance Weekly* [serial online] 2002 [cited 10 October 2002]; 6: 021003. Available at < <http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ew/2002/021003.asp#2> >

[Back to top](#)

- NEWS
- ENTERIC
- RESPIRATORY
- IMMUNISATION
- HIV/STIs
- BACTERAEMIA
- ZOONOSES
- TRAVEL HEALTH
- PRIMARY CARE
- DIARY
- BACK ISSUES
- SEARCH

Enteric

Last updated: 10 October 2002
Next update due: 14 November 2002

Contents

[General outbreaks of foodborne illness, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 31-35/02](#)

[Salmonella infections \(faecal specimens\), England and Wales: reports to the PHLS](#)

[Common gastrointestinal infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 36-39/02](#)

[Less common gastrointestinal infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 27-39/02](#)

[Surveillance of *Shigella boydii* and *S. dysenteriae* infection in England and Wales: 2001](#)

[General outbreaks of foodborne illness, England and Wales: quarterly report](#)

[Surveillance of waterborne disease and water quality: January to June 2002, and summary of 2001](#)

[Next](#) | [Top](#) |

General outbreaks of foodborne illness, England and Wales: weeks 36-39/02*

Health authority	Organism	Place of outbreak	Month of outbreak	No. ill	Cases positive	Suspect vehicle	Evidence
Hull	S. Enteritidis PT1	Restaurant	August	5	5	None	–
Norfolk	S. Typhimurium DT104	Restaurant	August	4	4	None	–
Birmingham	S. Enteritidis PT4	Restaurant	September	3	3	None	–
Cornwall	S. Enteritidis PT6	Restaurant	September	>7	>7	None	–
North Wales	S. Enteritidis PT21	Hotel	September	>25	>25	None	–
Suffolk	S. Enteritidis PT4	Residential	September	4	4	None	–

* Preliminary data. Final information will be published in the quarterly report.

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; S (statistical): a significant statistical association between consumption of the suspect vehicle(s) and being a case; D (descriptive): other evidence, usually descriptive, reported by local investigators as indicating the suspect vehicle.

[Next](#) | [Top](#) |

Salmonella infections (faecal specimens), England and Wales: reports to the PHLS (salmonella data set*)

Details of serotypes of the 1934 salmonella infections recorded in August 2002 are given in the table below. In September 2002, 2082 salmonella infections were recorded and preliminary information was received about six outbreaks (see table above).

*figures quoted from the PHLS salmonella data set are for isolates confirmed and typed by PHLS Laboratory of Enteric Pathogens (LEP)

	August 2002
Salmonella (provisional total)	1934
S. Enteritidis (PT4)	528
S. Enteritidis (other PTs)	824
S. Typhimurium	206
S. Virchow	23
Other (typed)	353

[Next](#) | [Top](#) |

Common gastrointestinal infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 36-39/02

Laboratory reports	Number of reports received				Total reports	Cumulative total to	
	36/02	37/02	38/02	39/02	36-39/02	39/02	39/01
Campylobacter	1920	1382	991	888	5181	35004	42159
Escherichia coli O157*	14	40	31	17	102	438	596
Salmonella	494	426	481	540	1941	9830	11421
Shigella sonnei	38	21	14	18	91	535	665
Rotavirus	87	52	36	27	202	13747	15411
Norwalk-like virus	169	51	22	113	355	2359	1331
Cryptosporidium	114	115	108	91	428	2010	2238
Giardia	122	85	70	69	346	2341	2456

* Vero cytotoxin producing isolates (data from LEP)

[Next](#) | [Top](#) |

Less common gastrointestinal infections, England and Wales: laboratory reports, weeks 27-39/02

	Total Reports	Cumulative total to	
Laboratory reports	27-39/02*	39/02	39/01
Adenovirus	9	32	201
Astrovirus	17	86	111

Calicivirus	4	23	20
<i>Shigella boydii</i>	7	41	42
<i>Shigella dysenteriae</i>	3	20	27
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	66	175	153
Aeromonas	45	104	132
Plesiomonas	6	14	19
Vibrio	15	44	37
Yersinia	5	23	22
<i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>	45	123	177
<i>Blastocystis hominis</i>	115	293	236
<i>Dientamoeba fragilis</i>	52	152	137
Taenia spp	17	45	54
Trichostrongylus	–	–	1
Trichuris trichiura	12	91	83

* provisional data

[Next](#) | [Top](#) |

Surveillance of *Shigella boydii* and *S. dysenteriae* infection in England and Wales: 2001

The PHLS Laboratory of Enteric Pathogens (LEP) provides a reference service for the confirmation and typing of *Shigella boydii* and *S. dysenteriae*. In 2001 LEP confirmed 52 cases of *S. boydii* infection and 31 cases of *S. dysenteriae* infection from cultures referred by laboratories in England and Wales.

Thirty-four cases of *S. boydii* were reported to have acquired their infections while travelling abroad (table 1). Most cases visited Asia (23) or Africa (6).

Twenty cases of the *S. dysenteriae* infection acquired it abroad with seven each from Africa and Asia.

Table 1

Region/Country	Number of cases	
	<i>S. boydii</i>	<i>S. dysenteriae</i>
Africa		
Egypt	1	3
Gambia	1	–
Ghana	1	1
Kenya	1	–
Nigeria	–	1
Somalia	–	1
Tunisia	1	1
Africa unspecified	1	–
Asia		

China	1	—
Bangladesh	—	2
India	12	4
Indonesia	—	1
Iraq	1	2
Nepal	1	—
Pakistan	7	1
Singapore	—	1
Asia unspecified	1	—
South America		
Peru	2	—
Europe		
Russia	1	—
Australasia		
New Zealand	—	1
Others		
More than one country	1	—
Abroad (country not stated)	1	1
UK acquired	1	1
Country not stated	17	10
Total	52	31
