

Communicable Disease Report

The new CDR

This is the first issue of the new format CDR. In future, there will be a weekly document dealing mainly with data from laboratories in England and Wales. Every four weeks, a Review number will be published containing commissioned articles and surveillance reports. A loose data sheet on AIDS will be included once every calendar month. The data used in these may be from a wider geographical area.

Those wishing to subscribe to the CDR should write to the Editor, CDR.

The CDR has now become a formally published document and the editor will be pleased to receive articles of epidemiological and microbiological interest which might be published in the CDR Review.

Influenza surveillance

Indices used to monitor influenza activity in the community indicate a minor increase in 'flu-like illnesses'. The RCGP consultation rates for 'epidemic influenza' and 'influenza-like illness' have risen slightly above base-line levels, although they are much lower than during epidemic periods.

Both respiratory syncytial virus and *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* are causing respiratory tract infections and some pneumonia at present.

Haemophilus influenzae: prophylaxis

Further to the advice in CDR 90/49 and CDR Review number 1, it should be noted that the dose schedule for rifampicin chemoprophylaxis for contacts of cases of *Haemophilus influenzae* infection is not the same as for contacts of cases of meningococcal infection. A four day schedule, as described on page R4 of the Review, is required to eradicate Hib from the nasopharynx and protect against secondary cases.

Food poisoning: South London

An outbreak of food poisoning following a Christmas party on Thursday 20 December occurred in south London. At least 183 people were affected, mostly about 12 hours later.

The meal consisted of either a traditional roast turkey dinner or a curry alternative. CDSC would be grateful for information on any cases thought to be associated with this event.

Hepatitis:
weeks 90/49-52

Imported infections:
weeks 90/49-52

Opportunist infections:
weeks 90/49-52

Sexually transmitted diseases:
weeks 90/49-52

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Hepatitis

	Number of reports received				Total reports 90/49-52	Cumulative total 1990
	90/49	90/50	90/51	90/52		
Hepatitis A (IgM)	177	188	141	95	601	7457
HBsAg total	107	82	48	29	266	1907
acute hepatitis B	40	34	10	9	93	547
other	67	48	38	20	173	1360

Hepatitis A

Outbreaks: 13 further cases, aged 4-55 years, in the Reading community outbreak (total 276). 24 further cases, aged 6-90 years, in the Gloucester schools/community outbreak, including F 29y who developed acute liver failure (total 156). 58 further cases, aged 3-69 years, in the Corby schools/community outbreak (total 147). 24 cases, aged 5-28 years, have been reported from a community outbreak in Hartlepool.

Family/household outbreaks have been reported from N

Ireland, Wales (3) and the following Regions: Northern (6), Yorkshire (7), E Anglia (1), SE Thames (4), including 3 siblings who had a recently returned from India; SW Thames (1), Oxford (1), N Western (1). Schools outbreaks have been reported from Wales and Mersey.

Travel: recent travel abroad was recorded in 21/601 (3.5%) reports: Mediterranean/Europe 11; ISC 6; Far East 1; N America 1; S America 1; not stated 1.

	Age					Not stated	Total
	<1y	1-14y	15-44y	45-64y	≥65y		
Hepatitis A (IgM)	2	214	323	35	6	21	601
HBsAg total	1	9	184	34	13	25	266
acute hepatitis B	1	1	71	9	4	7	93
other	-	8	113	25	9	18	173

Hepatitis B

Ninety-three reports of acute hepatitis B were received: 73 male, 20 female. The increase in the number of reports received is due to 'end of year' reporting by some laboratories. Risk factor information recorded for 60 cases

was: homosexual contact 15; IVDU 10; heterosexual contact 8; sexual contact type unspecified 4; blood transfusion/surgery/dentistry 3 adults; other 13; no recognisable risk 7.

Miscellaneous viruses

	Number of reports received				Total reports 90/49-52	Cumulative total 1990
	90/49	90/50	90/51	90/52		
Cytomegalovirus	22	19	27	8	76	1316
Molluscum contagiosum	-	-	2	3	5	41
Varicella zoster	3	-	3	-	6	312
HTLV1	1	-	-	1	2	28

Cytomegalovirus: 3 regions reported ≥8 cases: E Anglia (8 cases), Oxford (8) and N Western (8). Ages: 3, <1 month; 12, 1-11 months; 2, 1-4 years; 5, 5-14 years; 20, 15-44 years; 25, 45-64 years; 8, ≥65 years; 1 not stated. 30 patients had organ transplants; 7 were known to be HIV antibody positive; 5 patients had a glandular fever-like illness and 8 others had hepatitis; 5 children had respiratory tract infections.

Epstein Barr virus: M 16y and M 47y with Guillain Barre syndrome, and F 19y with nasopharyngeal carcinoma were reported.

Molluscum contagiosum: all adults.

Herpes simplex: 3 patients with neurological symptoms were reported: F 20y and M 53y with encephalitis, and F 17y with aseptic meningitis.

Varicella zoster: 2 patients with neurological symptoms were reported: M 20y with Bells palsy after chickenpox, and F 41y with bilateral palatal palsy.

HTLV1: F 42y with lymphoma, and West Indian F 62y.

Papovavirus 3: all adults.

Polyomavirus 3: all adults after bone marrow transplant.

Mycoplasma hominis 2: preterm neonate (gastric aspirate) and F 24y with fever after caesarean section (blood).

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome: United Kingdom 1982 - November 1990

A new format for presenting data on AIDS cases and HIV-1 antibody positive persons is being introduced (Tables 1 and 2). Explanatory notes and background to the changes are included in the accompanying CDR Review (CDR 1991;1:R6-R9) which presents the data to the end of November 1990 in both the old and new formats. The data on AIDS cases and HIV-1 antibody positive persons to the end of December 1990 will be included in a future CDR.

During November 1990, 104 new cases (94 males, 10 females) were accepted which fulfilled the criteria for case definition; 28 of these were known to have died. The total

number of known deaths among cases reported by the end of October 1990 increased by 52 to 2183.

Of the 104 new cases; 67 were in men who had sexual intercourse with other men (14 died); 8 were persons who probably acquired the virus through sexual intercourse between men and women (1 died); 15 were injecting drug users (4 died); 7 were blood factor recipients (4 died); 2 were blood/tissue transfer recipients (1 died); the exposure category of 5 cases was undetermined (4 died).

Table 3 shows the geographical distribution of new AIDS cases in consecutive twelve month periods as well as the cumulative total. Table 4 shows the geographical distribution by exposure category of AIDS cases, excluding visitors, to the end of September 1990.

Table 1 AIDS cases (known deaths) by exposure category and date of report: United Kingdom and Channel Islands to 30 November 1990

How persons probably acquired the virus	Dec 88–Nov 89		Dec 89–Nov 90		Cumulative total since 1982			
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	(Deaths)	Female	(Deaths)
Sexual intercourse								
between men	657	–	898	–	3152	(1748)	–	–
between men and women								
"high risk" partner ¹	5	7	3	6	11	(6)	22	(13)
other partner abroad ²	35	18	64	28	136	(68)	60	(23)
other partner UK	4	3	5	7	13	(5)	12	(4)
Injecting drug use (IDU)	31	8	61	18	120	(49)	37	(20)
IDU & sexual intercourse between men	10	–	18	–	59	(32)	–	–
Blood								
Blood factor (e.g. haemophiliacs)	40	1	62	1	223	(152)	3	(2)
Blood/tissue transfer (e.g. transfusion)								
abroad	1	4	2	10	13	(9)	24	(14)
U K	4	5	2	5	16	(13)	13	(9)
Mother to child	1	3	4	7	13	(5)	20	(10)
Other/undetermined	12	2	15	1	37	(27)	4	(2)
Total	800	51	1134	83	3793	(2114)	195	(97)

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 and Channel Islands to 30 November 1990

Sexual orientation	Dec 88 - Nov 89		Dec 89 - Nov 90		Cumulative total since 1982	
	Cases	(%)	Cases	(%)	Cases	(%)
Homosexual men	568	(68)	803	(68)	2723	(70)
Bisexual men	100	(12)	113	(10)	493	(13)
Heterosexual men and women	170	(20)	260	(22)	669	(17)
Total ¹	838		1176		3885	

1. Excludes some cases under investigation.

**Table 3 Geographical distribution of AIDS cases (known deaths¹):
United Kingdom and Channel Islands, to 30 November 1990**

Country and Region of first report	Dec 88 - Nov 89		Dec 89- Nov 90		Cumulative total since 1982	
	Cases	(Deaths ¹)	Cases	(Deaths ¹)	Cases	(Deaths ¹)
England:						
Northern	10	(3)	27	(5)	82	(46)
Yorkshire	25	(11)	31	(16)	101	(63)
Trent	15	(4)	22	(7)	76	(41)
E Anglia	12	(9)	6	(1)	41	(30)
NW Thames	325	(119)	496	(80)	1601	(788)
NE Thames	148	(48)	174	(60)	680	(386)
SE Thames	99	(57)	150	(42)	444	(266)
SW Thames	32	(22)	45	(21)	141	(100)
Wessex	16	(8)	33	(16)	93	(60)
Oxford	15	(9)	28	(7)	82	(48)
S Western	16	(8)	19	(9)	75	(50)
W Midlands	27	(12)	34	(13)	91	(53)
Mersey	7	(6)	15	(6)	51	(36)
N Western	27	(9)	52	(19)	156	(91)
Wales	15	(9)	12	(4)	59	(41)
Northern Ireland	5	(3)	6	(5)	20	(17)
Scotland	56	(22)	65	(14)	191	(92)
Channel Islands	1	(1)	2	(2)	4	(4)
Total	851	360	1217	327	3988	2212

1. Reporting of recent deaths is incomplete.

**Table 4 Geographical distribution and exposure category:
AIDS cases, excluding visitors, United Kingdom and Channel Islands, to 30 September 1990**

Country and Region of first report	Sexual intercourse								Cumulative total since 1982
	between men	between men and women		Injecting drug use ¹		Blood	Other/ undetermined ²		
		M	F	M	F		M	F	
England:									
Northern	36	5	1	1	—	32	2	—	77
Yorkshire	53	8	2	3	1	25	2	1	95
Trent	53	6	1	1	1	11	—	1	74
E Anglia	27	3	1	—	—	6	—	—	37
NW Thames	1337	29	17	41	4	17	17	3	1465
NE Thames	519	12	10	21	6	34	2	3	607
SE Thames	323	14	13	23	4	31	3	4	415
SW Thames	106	8	9	2	1	10	3	—	139
Wessex	53	4	2	6	—	15	4	1	85
Oxford	39	2	4	7	1	19	2	—	74
S Western	52	3	1	3	—	10	2	—	71
W Midlands	63	5	4	4	—	7	2	—	85
Mersey	31	1	2	2	—	10	—	—	46
N Western	121	7	5	7	1	8	2	2	153
Wales	28	5	2	2	1	14	3	—	55
Northern Ireland	12	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	18
Scotland	90	8	4	38	10	14	2	5	171
Channel Islands	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Total	2946	122	80	161	30	264	47	20	3670

1. Includes 57 male drug users who also had sexual intercourse with other men.

2. Includes 28 children of at risk or infected parents.

Sexually transmitted diseases

	Male	Female	Not stated	Total for weeks	
				90/49-52	90/01
<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>					
b-lactamase producing	8	—	—	8	149
other penicillin-resistant strains	5	2	—	7	86
extra-genital isolates (penicillin sensitive)	6	6	—	12	225
<i>Ophthalmia neonatorum</i> (<6 weeks)					
gonococcal	1	1	1	3	20
chlamydia	12	15	1	28	550
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>	598	1150	21	1769	29413
<i>Herpes simplex</i>	298	444	4	746	9989

Comment

Neisseria gonorrhoeae: b-lactamase producing strains. Country of infection: Italy, South Africa, West Africa 1 each. One strain was also tetracycline-resistant.

N. gonorrhoeae: 2 spectinomycin-resistant from genital tract were reported. One neonate with ophthalmia had a penicillin-resistant strain.

Extra-genital isolates. Throat: 3 (2 male, 1 female). Rectum: 8 (3 male, 5 female). M 56y had septic arthritis of knee and wrist (joints).

***Chlamydia trachomatis*.** Genital tract: 1732 (585 male, 1126

female). Eye: adult 16; children aged ≥ 6 weeks 6. 15 women had pelvic disease (serology 14; pouch of Douglas 1).

The provisional cumulative totals for 1990 are comparable with the total for 1989, except for the number of extra-genital isolates of penicillin-sensitive strains of *N. gonorrhoeae* (111 in 1989). The increase is seen in the number of isolates from rectum, and the ratio of males:females has reverted after a few years, when reports from women exceeded those from men.

Bacteraemia and bacterial meningitis

Organism	No. of reports received		Age		Total received	Cumulative total 90/01-52
	Blood only	CSF only or CSF & blood	<1m	$\geq 65y$		
<i>Bacteroides</i> sp	53	—	—	35	53	847
<i>Clostridium</i> sp	22	—	—	11	22	285
Anaerobic cocci	7	—	—	—	7	162
<i>Acinetobacter</i> sp	15	—	—	5	15	259
<i>Aeromonas</i> sp	6	—	—	4	6	69
<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp	92	1	3	44	93	1505
<i>Serratia</i> sp	6	—	—	2	6	192

Bacteraemia

The number of reports received during this 4-week period is comparable to the average for the same period over the past 5 years.

***Bacteroides* sp:** *B. asaccharolyticus* 2; *B. fragilis* 35; *B. thetaiotaomicron* 2. *B. uniformis* 1. M 26y with cerebral abscess also had α -haemolytic streptococci and coagulase negative staphylococci also.

***Fusobacterium* sp 5.** *F. naviforme* 1; *F. necrophorum* 2. F 6m had mastoid infection; M 25y had cerebral abscess (pus also); F 61y with leukaemia; M 87y with bowel disease. ***Clostridium* sp:** *C. paraputrificum* 1; *C. perfringens* 17; *C. subterminale* 1. *C. perfringens*, M 36y, with group A streptococcal cellulitis, developed local gas gangrene and acute renal failure; M 84y with leukaemia had splenic abscess.

	Total bacteraemia	Gastrointestinal tract	Biliary tract (ERCP)	UTI/GU (pregnant)	Ishaemic/pressure sores
<i>Bacteroides</i> sp	53	16	2 (—)	9 (—)	7
<i>Clostridium</i> sp	22	9	2 (—)	2 (—)	—
Anaerobic cocci	7	—	—	6 (4)	—

Alcaligenes sp 2.

***Aeromonas* sp:** *A. hydrophila* 6. Also reported: *A. caviae*, M 67y with facial wound (skin). *A. hydrophila*, F 49y (bile); F 97y with vomiting (vomit).

***Pseudomonas* sp:** *P. aeruginosa* 68; *P. cepacia* 4; *P. fluorescens*

6; *P. maltophilia* 5; *P. paucimobilis* 1; *P. pickettii* 1; *P. stutzeri* 1. 8 patients had biliary tract disease (ERCP 3).

***Serratia* sp:** *S. liquefaciens* 2; *S. marcescens* 3. M 67y had bacteraemia after ERCP.

	Total bacteraemia	UTI/GU (pregnant)	Burns	Intravascular lines	Leukaemia/ bone marrow suppression (IV-lines)
<i>Acinetobacter</i> sp	15	1 (-)	1	2	5 (1)
<i>Aeromonas</i> sp	6	—	—	—	3 (-)
<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp	92	20 (-)	1	10	27 (3)
<i>Serratia</i> sp	6	1 (-)	—	—	2 (-)

Meningitis

Pseudomonas aeruginosa: F 60y after neurosurgery.

Unusual organisms

Achromobacter xylosoxidans: M 28y with acute leukaemia (blood).

Aerococcus viridans: M 69y with endocarditis (blood).

Bacillus cereus: M 24y with compound fracture and infected orthopaedic pin (wound).

Capnocytophaga sp: F 74y with long-standing pleural empyema (pleural aspirate).

Diphtheroids 4: M 4m with CSF shunt (CSF); 2 patients with leukaemia (blood) and F 53y with endocarditis (heart valve).

Neisseria mucalis: M 56y with endocarditis (blood).

Providencia stuartii: M 75y with urinary tract disease (blood).

Stomatococcus mucilaginosus: M 40y with leukaemia (blood).

Imported infections

Dengue 5: all adults ((India 3, Thailand 1, M East 1).

Filaria sp 1.

Hookworms 24: (Bangladesh 3, Pakistan 4, Africa 2).

Leishmania infantum 1: adult from Malta (spleen).

Plasmodium sp 32: *P. falciparum* 20 (Nigeria 8, Ghana 2, Africa 2, India 1); *P. malariae* 3 (Nigeria 1, Ghana 1); *P.*

ovale 3 (Ghana 1, Nigeria 1, Zambia 1); *P. vivax* 9 (India 2, Pakistan 1, Ethiopia 1, Uganda 1).

Relapsing fever: F 5y with relapsing fever after visiting Morocco (blood microscopy).

Schistosoma 5: *S. haematobium* 1; *S. mansoni* 2 (Africa 2).

Strongyloides 4 (India 1, Sierra Leone 1).

Opportunist infections

Acintomycosis 6: *A. israelii* 2; *A. meyeri* 1; *A. odontolyticus* 1. 2 women with IUCDs; 2 patients with oro-facial infections; M 56y with pharyngeal tumour associated with abscess (pus); F 28y with multiple abscesses after removal of abdominal dermoid (peritoneum).

Aspergillus sp 3: F 11m and F 14y (blood culture isolates); F 52y with bronchopulmonary aspergillosis (sputum, serol).

Candida sp 14: *C. albicans* 11; *C. parapsilosis* 1. 6 patients had IV-lines including 2/8 immunosuppressed patients. *C. albicans*, preterm M 15d with meningitis (CSF).

Cryptococcus sp 1: M 37y with AIDS had meningitis (blood).

Nocardia asteroides 1: M 65y with facial abscess (skin).

Pneumocystis carinii 3: 2 HIV antibody positive men, and a child with leukaemia (all sputum/bronchoalveolar lavage).

Rhizopus sp: F 50y with lung abscess; previous renal transplant (pus).

Rhodococcus sp: M 35y with AIDS had fever, weight loss and pneumonia (blood, lung).

From week 91/01 data in CDR will be from England and Wales only, unless otherwise stated.
Because of this change, 4-weekly averages for the previous 5 years will not be included.

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