

MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT

Current Trends

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MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT

Current Trends

Syphilis Trends in the United States

Both the reported cases of and the rates of primary and secondary syphilis in the United States increased over the past 3 years (Table 1). In 1980, 27,204 cases were reported compared with 20,399 in 1977, a 33.4% increase. Rates per 100,000 population increased by 26.3%, from 9.5 in 1977 to 12.0 in 1980. Also, 21 states reported higher rates of primary and secondary syphilis in 1980 than in 1975. Case rates more than doubled from 1975 to 1980 in 4 states (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas). Four states (Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas) reported case rates that were more than twice as high as the national average in 1980.

Primary and secondary syphilis cases were reported more frequently from large urban areas than from less populated areas. Sixty-three cities with populations of 200,000 or more, comprising only 25% of the nation's population, accounted for 63% of the reported cases in 1980. The same year, the highest rates per 100,000 population were reported for the following large cities—San Francisco (153.2), Atlanta (138.9), New Orleans (95.6), Memphis (87.1)—and the District of Columbia (77.3). Cities with the lowest reported rates were Wichita (1.1), Omaha (1.2), Tulsa (2.8), Pittsburgh (3.0), and Des Moines (5.0).

Despite annual fluctuations between 1969 and 1980, national rates of primary and secondary syphilis cases increased for men by 50.8% and decreased for women by 19.1% (Figure 1). Rates began to increase from 1977 through 1980 for both men (29.3%) and women (17.0%). The increase from 1979 to 1980 was greater for women (10.0%) than for men (4.4%).

The trend of reported cases of primary and secondary syphilis among women is also reflected in the cases of congenital syphilis (children <1 year of age). The number of congenital syphilis cases had fallen progressively from 451 in 1971 to an all-time low of 107 in 1978. But 129 cases were reported in 1979 and 111 cases, in 1980 (Table 2). From 1979 to 1980, the largest changes in numbers of cases were reported from California (15 fewer cases) and from the District of Columbia (9 more cases). Fifteen states reported no congenital cases in children <1 year of age in either 1979 or 1980.

During the 2-year period 1979-1980, the number of congenital syphilis cases per 1,000 primary and secondary syphilis cases in women ranged from 5.9 to 74.1 in those states reporting 2 or more congenital syphilis cases. States with the highest numbers were Missouri (74.1), Oregon (66.7), Massachusetts (65.6), the District of Columbia (60.5), and Indiana (59.8); states with the lowest numbers were North Carolina (5.9), Mississippi (6.6), and Florida (7.0).

Reported by Venereal Disease Control Div, Center for Prevention Svcs, CDC.

Syphilis Trends - Continued

Editorial Note: The increase in numbers of reported primary and secondary syphilis cases in the United States probably reflects an actual increase in incidence of the disease, even

TABLE 1. Primary and secondary syphilis, reported cases and case rates per 100,000 population, United States and outlying areas, 1975-1980

States by HHS region	Cases						Rates per 100,000 population					
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Connecticut	206	173	186	171	154	135	6.7	5.6	6.0	5.5	5.0	4.3
Maine	43	22	28	11	10	6	4.1	2.1	2.6	1.0	0.9	0.5
Massachusetts	545	597	547	342	286	318	9.4	10.3	9.5	5.9	5.0	5.5
New Hampshire	7	9	8	7	18	5	2.0	1.1	0.9	0.8	2.0	0.5
Rhode Island	25	14	29	20	32	27	2.1	1.5	3.1	2.2	3.4	
Vermont	7	10	6	3	3	4	1.5	2.1	1.2	0.6	0.6	0.8
REGION I TOTAL	842	830	789	563	491	500	6.9	6.8	6.5	4.6	4.0	4.0
New Jersey	759	556	374	357	481	442	10.4	7.6	5.1	4.9	6.6	6.0
New York	3,263	2,741	2,154	2,281	2,714	2,728	18.0	15.2	12.0	12.9	15.4	15.5
REGION II TOTAL	4,022	3,297	2,528	2,638	3,195	3,170	15.8	13.0	10.0	10.5	12.8	12.7
Delaware	88	68	17	12	26	19	15.3	11.8	2.9	2.1	4.5	3.2
Maryland	591	536	419	441	346	398	14.6	13.1	10.2	10.8	8.4	9.4
Pennsylvania	754	649	426	327	464	573	6.4	5.5	3.6	2.8	4.0	4.8
Virginia	570	693	538	474	492	584	11.8	14.2	10.8	9.5	9.8	10.9
West Virginia	37	23	5	29	40	19	2.1	1.3	0.3	1.6	2.1	1.0
REGION III TOTAL*	2,710	2,521	1,941	1,690	1,821	2,086	11.4	10.5	8.1	7.1	7.6	8.5
Alabama	270	188	164	199	301	478	7.5	5.2	4.5	5.4	8.0	12.3
Florida	3,228	2,481	1,830	1,983	2,100	2,257	39.1	29.8	21.9	23.3	24.0	23.2
Georgia	1,128	1,092	1,272	1,402	1,635	1,849	23.1	22.2	25.5	27.9	32.3	33.8
Kentucky	169	111	151	150	161	129	5.0	3.6	3.2	4.3	4.6	3.5
Mississippi	295	285	255	393	517	673	12.7	12.2	10.8	16.5	21.5	26.7
North Carolina	1,100	1,250	792	611	436	495	20.6	23.3	14.4	11.1	7.9	8.4
South Carolina	541	379	265	288	321	406	19.7	13.6	9.4	10.1	11.2	13.0
Tennessee	419	293	256	385	684	925	10.1	7.0	6.0	8.9	15.7	20.1
REGION IV TOTAL	7,150	6,089	4,935	5,411	6,155	7,212	20.6	17.4	14.0	15.1	17.0	18.6
Illinois	1,034	1,083	1,178	1,535	1,647	1,365	9.3	9.7	10.5	13.7	14.7	12.0
Indiana	159	121	157	166	231	203	3.0	2.3	3.0	3.1	4.3	3.7
Michigan	335	258	268	257	418	399	3.7	2.8	2.9	2.8	4.5	4.3
Minnesota	110	105	158	146	81	125	2.8	2.7	4.0	3.6	2.0	3.1
Ohio	519	495	479	463	600	379	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.3	5.6	3.5
Wisconsin	84	111	108	73	80	104	1.8	2.4	2.3	1.6	1.7	2.2
REGION V TOTAL	2,241	2,173	2,348	2,640	3,057	2,575	5.0	4.8	5.2	5.8	6.8	5.6
Arkansas	68	103	66	77	165	217	3.2	4.9	3.1	3.5	7.6	9.5
Louisiana	527	572	665	727	1,123	1,426	14.0	15.0	17.1	18.5	28.1	33.9
New Mexico	153	143	100	87	95	112	13.5	12.4	8.5	7.3	7.8	8.6
Oklahoma	91	93	89	94	87	113	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.0	3.7
Texas	1,579	2,044	2,124	2,640	3,153	3,828	13.1	16.6	16.7	20.5	23.8	26.9
REGION VI TOTAL	2,418	2,955	3,044	3,625	4,623	5,696	11.1	13.4	13.4	15.7	19.7	22.7
Iowa	32	45	37	36	37	31	1.1	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.1
Kansas	136	94	58	86	39	38	6.1	4.1	2.5	3.7	1.7	1.6
Missouri	277	180	172	144	140	165	5.8	3.8	3.6	3.0	2.9	3.4
Nebraska	21	42	25	15	7	12	1.4	2.7	1.6	1.0	0.4	0.8
REGION VII TOTAL	466	361	292	281	223	246	4.1	3.2	2.5	2.4	1.9	2.1
Colorado	112	140	123	124	116	190	4.5	5.5	4.8	4.7	4.2	6.6
Montana	8	15	8	8	11	2	1.1	2.0	1.1	1.0	1.4	0.3
North Dakota	5	4	3	4	2	2	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.3
South Dakota	5	6	12	3	2	6	0.7	0.9	1.8	0.4	0.3	0.9
Utah	18	25	13	14	5	18	1.5	2.0	1.0	1.1	0.4	1.2
Wyoming	6	7	4	6	10	9	1.6	1.8	1.0	1.4	2.2	1.9
REGION VIII TOTAL	154	197	163	159	146	227	2.5	3.2	2.6	2.5	2.2	3.3
Arizona	250	203	153	113	152	243	11.4	9.1	6.7	4.9	6.3	8.9
California	4,817	4,645	3,715	3,979	4,382	4,638	23.1	21.9	17.2	18.1	19.5	19.6
Hawaii	51	86	36	44	94	120	6.3	10.3	4.3	5.2	11.0	12.4
Nevada	55	35	16	57	112	93	9.4	5.8	2.6	8.8	16.2	11.6
REGION IX TOTAL	5,173	4,969	3,920	4,193	4,740	5,094	21.1	19.9	15.5	16.2	18.0	18.1
Alaska	7	29	27	12	21	10	2.1	8.1	7.1	3.2	5.5	2.5
Idaho	18	24	8	9	16	17	2.2	2.9	0.9	1.0	1.8	1.8
Oregon	145	106	144	170	167	109	6.3	4.6	6.1	7.0	6.6	4.1
Washington	215	180	260	265	219	262	6.2	5.1	7.2	7.1	5.7	6.3
REGION X TOTAL	385	339	439	456	423	398	5.6	4.8	6.1	6.2	5.5	4.9
U.S. TOTAL I	25,561	23,731	20,399	21,656	24,874	27,204	12.1	11.1	9.5	10.0	11.4	12.0
Canal Zone	2	2	0	0	0	0	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guam	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Puerto Rico	738	634	602	535	611	704	24.3	20.3	18.7	16.1	18.3	22.1
Virgin Islands	32	38	10	18	12	10	32.0	38.0	10.0	18.0	12.0	10.0
OUTLYING AREAS	772	674	613	553	623	714	23.5	20.0	17.7	15.5	17.5	21.7
U.S. + OUT TOTAL	26,333	24,405	21,012	22,209	25,497	27,918	12.3	11.3	9.6	10.1	11.5	12.1

*Includes cases reported by District of Columbia.

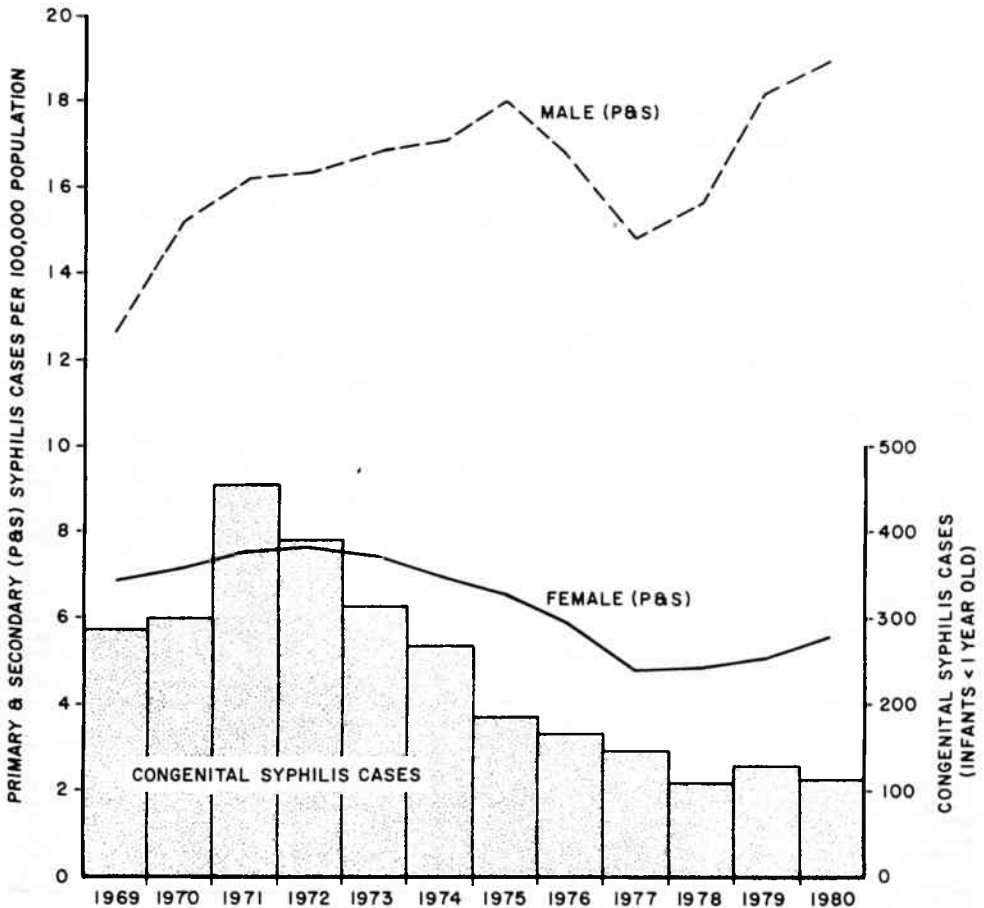
Syphilis Trends – Continued

though reported rates are influenced by changes in diagnostic procedures, reporting practices, and a shift of the population at risk from the sector of private practice to the public clinic, where reporting is more complete. Reported rates are also influenced by casefinding activities and the availability of clinic facilities. An important factor in the rise in the number of syphilis cases from 1977 to 1980, particularly among women, may have been the shift in emphasis from syphilis to gonorrhea by state and local venereal disease-prevention programs.

The diverging trend of rates for men and women can be attributed in part to an increase in the number and proportion of men with early infectious syphilis who name other men as recent sexual partners. The number of such cases among men increased 187.2%—from 2,343 in 1969 to 6,729 in 1980, while the proportion increased steadily from 24% in 1969 to 47% in 1980.

Congenital syphilis can be prevented by proper prenatal care and by reducing the

FIGURE 1. Primary and secondary syphilis case rates by sex, and congenital syphilis cases, United States, 1969-1980



Syphilis Trends – Continued

incidence of syphilis in pregnant women. Data on congenital syphilis are difficult to interpret because of the small number of congenital syphilis cases and the diagnostic uncertainty of this condition (7).

States with low rates of congenital syphilis usually have effective prenatal care, serologic testing of high-risk pregnant women in the third trimester, and timely and thorough epidemiologic follow-up of expectant mothers and of fathers who are contacts of persons with infectious syphilis. Further reductions in the incidence of congenital syphilis in these states will occur only if the incidence of syphilis in the general community is reduced. Although states with high numbers of congenital syphilis cases also reflect incidence of syphilis in the community, health officials should seek to improve prenatal care, prenatal serologic testing, and the efficiency of identifying mothers in need of epidemiologic follow-up. Failure to prevent congenital syphilis may be limited to specific, underserved populations or to episodic breakdowns in the system of health care.

Reference

1. Kaufman RE, Jones OG, Blount JH, Wiesner PJ. Questionnaire survey of reported early congenital syphilis: problems in diagnosis, prevention, and treatment. *Sex Trans Dis* 1977;4:135-9.

(Continued on page 447)

TABLE I. Summary – cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States
(Cumulative totals include revised and delayed reports through previous weeks.)

DISEASE	35th WEEK ENDING		MEDIAN 1976-1980	CUMULATIVE, FIRST 35 WEEKS		
	September 5 1981	August 30 1980		September 5 1981	August 30 1980	MEDIAN 1976-1980
Aseptic meningitis	338	372	293	4,839	3,902	3,278
Brucellosis	6	1	1	99	130	130
Chickenpox	242	311	265	166,399	157,168	157,168
Diphtheria	-	-	-	3	2	59
Encephalitis: Primary (arthropod-borne & unspec.)	43	40	54	733	592	596
Post-infectious	-	4	3	58	150	154
Hepatitis, Viral: Type B	262	394	319	13,558	11,648	10,134
Type A	306	612	598	16,663	18,543	19,822
Type unspecified	151	244	200	7,365	7,611	5,912
Malaria	17	31	22	937	1,382	461
Measles (rubeola)	5	42	57	2,631	12,789	23,583
Meningococcal infections: Total	37	31	31	2,525	1,930	1,768
Civilian	37	31	31	2,516	1,916	1,746
Military	-	-	-	9	14	17
Mumps	17	46	87	3,060	7,009	13,298
Pertussis	19	32	32	762	1,056	935
Rubella (German measles)	15	17	44	1,717	3,194	10,606
Tetanus	2	1	4	41	55	50
Tuberculosis	366	520	572	17,936	18,175	19,668
Tularemia	10	5	5	159	139	111
Typhoid fever	5	15	15	333	310	310
Typhus fever, tick-borne (Rky. Mt. spotted)	43	40	40	983	886	824
Venereal diseases:						
Gonorrhea: Civilian	15,271	20,833	20,833	663,556	658,232	659,399
Military	444	549	631	15,155	18,272	18,272
Syphilis, primary & secondary: Civilian	555	591	445	20,120	17,606	16,210
Military	10	7	7	248	224	206
Rabies in animals	101	86	82	4,910	4,542	2,122

TABLE II. Notifiable diseases of low frequency, United States

	CUM. 1981		CUM. 1981
Anthrax	-	Poliomyelitis: Total	3
Botulism	38	Paralytic	3
Cholera	3	Psittacosis	76
Congenital rubella syndrome	7	Rabies in man	1
Leprosy (Upstate N.Y. 1)	175	Trichinosis (Va. 1)	106
Leptospirosis (Wash. 1)	27	Typhus fever, flea-borne (endemic, murine)(Tex. 2)	36
Plague (Ariz. 1)	9		

All delayed reports and corrections will be included in the following week's cumulative totals.

TABLE III. Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending
September 5, 1981 and August 30, 1980 (35th week)

REPORTING AREA	ASEPTIC MENIN- GITIS	BRU- CEL- LOSIS	CHICKEN- POX	DIPHTHERIA		ENCEPHALITIS			HEPATITIS (VIRAL), BY TYPE			MALARIA	
						Primary		Post-in- fectious	B	A	Unspecified		
						1981	CUM. 1981						
UNITED STATES	338	6	242	-	3	43	40	-	262	306	151	17	937
NEW ENGLAND	15	-	62	-	-	2	2	-	22	8	5	1	49
Maine	4	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
N.H.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-	-	NA	NA	NA	NA	3
Vt.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
Mass.	2	-	52	-	-	-	1	-	5	2	4	1	29
R.I.	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	2
Conn.	8	-	3	-	-	2	1	-	13	3	1	-	11
MID. ATLANTIC	46	-	55	-	-	3	6	-	54	42	16	4	115
Upstate N. Y.	20	-	4	-	-	1	3	-	5	12	1	1	31
N.Y. City	1	-	51	-	-	-	-	-	17	13	3	1	36
N.J.	13	-	NN	-	-	-	2	-	32	17	12	-	35
Pa.	12	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	NA	NA	NA	2	13
E.N. CENTRAL	73	-	50	-	-	21	18	-	44	79	23	-	44
Ohio	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	-	18	13	7	-	7
Ind.	36	-	11	-	-	9	5	-	8	34	6	-	6
Ill.	-	-	7	-	-	1	5	-	4	14	2	-	14
Mich.	35	-	1	-	-	7	1	-	13	16	6	-	17
Wis.	2	-	31	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	2	-	-
W.N. CENTRAL	11	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	6	13	10	1	26
Minn.	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	2	5	3	-	10
Iowa	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3
Mo.	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	3	7	1	3
N. Dak.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
S. Dak.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nebr.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Kans.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	7
S. ATLANTIC	29	1	13	-	1	1	6	-	66	46	25	-	111
Del.	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	1
Md.	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	8	1	4	-	25
D.C.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Va.	11	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	8	8	4	-	20
W. Va.	3	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	7
N.C.	3	-	NN	-	-	1	3	-	13	4	7	-	3
S.C.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	2	2	-	1
Ga.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	12	-	-	8
Fla.	16	1	5	-	1	-	-	-	14	18	8	-	37
E.S. CENTRAL	106	-	6	-	-	3	1	-	20	21	2	-	10
Ky.	86	-	6	-	-	2	-	-	4	7	1	-	-
Tenn.	12	-	NN	-	-	-	-	-	11	12	1	-	-
Ala.	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	9
Miss.	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	-	-	1
W.S. CENTRAL	31	5	25	-	-	7	5	-	25	54	52	9	74
Ark.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	-	5
La.	8	-	NN	-	-	3	1	-	2	16	10	2	5
Okla.	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	3	5	-	6
Tex.	20	2	25	-	-	4	4	-	17	33	35	7	58
MOUNTAIN	1	-	2	-	1	-	2	-	13	27	12	1	30
Mont.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Idaho	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	2
Wyo.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Colo.	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	7	13	-	1	14
N. Mex.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	2
Ariz.	NA	NA	NN	NA	NA	NA	1	-	NA	NA	NA	NA	4
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	4	-	4
Nev.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	8	-	3
PACIFIC	16	-	23	-	1	1	-	-	12	16	6	1	478
Wash.	9	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	-	-	26
Oreg.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	8	6	1	13
Calif.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-	-	NA	NA	NA	NA	431
Alaska	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hawaii	5	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	7
Guam	NA	NA	NA	NA	-	NA	-	-	NA	NA	NA	NA	1
P.R.	NA	NA	NA	NA	-	NA	-	-	NA	NA	NA	NA	9
V.I.	NA	NA	NA	NA	-	NA	-	-	NA	NA	NA	NA	4
Pac. Trust Terr.	NA	NA	NA	NA	-	NA	-	-	NA	NA	NA	NA	-

NN: Not notifiable. NA: Not available.
All delayed reports and corrections will be included in the following week's cumulative totals.

TABLE III (Cont.'d). Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending
September 5, 1981 and August 30, 1980 (35th week)

REPORTING AREA	MEASLES (RUBEDLA)			MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS TOTAL			MUMPS		PERTUSSIS	RUBELLA		TETANUS
	1981	CUM. 1981	CUM. 1980	1981	CUM. 1981	CUM. 1980	1981	CUM. 1981	1981	1981	CUM. 1981	CUM. 1981
UNITED STATES	5	2,631	12,789	37	2,525	1,930	17	3,060	19	15	1,717	41
NEW ENGLAND	1	77	672	2	180	111	1	143	3	-	104	2
Maine	-	5	33	-	20	5	-	29	-	-	33	-
N.H.	NA	6	331	-	22	7	NA	18	NA	NA	35	-
Vt.	-	1	226	-	6	13	-	6	-	-	-	-
Mass.	1	57	58	1	56	38	1	34	2	-	24	-
R.I.	-	-	2	1	16	7	-	20	1	-	-	-
Conn.	-	8	22	-	60	41	-	36	-	-	12	2
MID. ATLANTIC	2	757	3,754	9	355	339	3	546	2	1	203	2
Upstate N.Y.	1	211	682	6	117	110	1	104	-	-	96	1
N.Y. City	1	73	1,174	-	59	85	2	74	1	1	50	1
N.J.	-	55	825	-	79	73	-	83	-	-	46	-
Pa.	-	458	1,073	3	100	71	-	285	1	-	11	-
E.N. CENTRAL	1	75	2,397	7	259	245	4	848	2	1	349	7
Ohio	1	16	375	3	111	72	-	135	-	-	3	1
Ind.	-	8	90	-	41	36	2	96	-	1	124	2
Ill.	-	23	334	2	74	71	-	171	-	-	83	-
Mich.	-	30	235	1	68	53	1	299	2	-	34	3
Wis.	-	2	1,363	1	5	13	1	147	-	-	105	1
W.N. CENTRAL	-	6	1,328	1	107	75	-	166	-	-	75	3
Minn.	-	2	1,094	-	37	18	-	8	-	-	6	2
Iowa	-	1	20	-	18	9	-	43	-	-	4	-
Mo.	-	1	64	1	34	34	-	15	-	-	2	1
N. Dak.	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
S. Dak.	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
Nebr.	-	1	83	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-
Kans.	-	1	67	-	13	9	-	96	-	-	62	-
S. ATLANTIC	-	360	1,875	5	566	463	2	435	5	3	137	8
Del.	-	-	3	-	4	2	-	9	-	-	1	-
Md.	-	5	71	-	40	45	-	82	-	-	1	-
D.C.	-	1	-	-	3	1	1	3	-	-	-	-
Va.	-	7	299	1	72	44	-	116	1	1	8	-
W. Va.	-	9	9	-	23	14	1	76	-	-	22	-
N.C.	-	4	128	1	83	88	-	15	2	-	5	2
S.C.	-	2	159	2	73	53	-	10	-	-	8	2
Ga.	-	109	810	1	54	78	-	33	-	-	35	1
Fla.	-	223	396	-	174	138	-	91	2	2	57	3
E.S. CENTRAL	-	4	330	5	183	171	-	75	1	6	36	2
Ky.	-	-	55	4	52	53	-	37	-	1	20	-
Tenn.	-	2	169	-	50	45	-	20	-	5	15	-
Ala.	-	2	22	-	57	46	-	15	-	-	1	2
Miss.	-	-	84	1	24	27	-	3	1	-	-	-
W.S. CENTRAL	1	527	540	2	409	201	7	180	4	-	150	9
Ark.	-	1	16	-	22	17	2	3	-	-	2	1
La.	-	2	11	-	99	72	-	4	-	-	9	2
Okla.	-	6	774	-	34	18	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tex.	1	518	139	2	254	94	5	173	4	-	139	5
MOUNTAIN	-	33	462	1	103	70	-	109	2	2	82	2
Mont.	-	-	2	-	6	3	-	9	-	-	4	-
Idaho	-	1	-	-	3	4	-	4	-	-	3	-
Wyo.	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	2	5	-
Colo.	-	5	24	-	35	18	-	42	1	-	27	-
N. Mex.	-	8	11	1	7	8	-	-	1	-	5	-
Ariz.	NA	5	370	-	19	12	NA	24	NA	NA	19	1
Utah	-	-	47	-	5	2	-	16	-	-	5	1
Nev.	-	10	8	-	27	21	-	13	-	-	10	-
PACIFIC	-	348	1,031	5	323	255	-	558	-	2	581	6
Wash.	-	3	174	2	61	47	-	138	-	1	95	-
Oreg.	-	4	-	3	50	44	-	62	-	1	49	-
Calif.	NA	339	846	-	201	156	NA	331	NA	NA	426	6
Alaska	-	-	5	-	7	8	-	7	-	-	1	-
Hawaii	-	2	6	-	4	-	-	20	-	-	10	-
Guam	NA	4	5	-	-	1	NA	6	NA	NA	1	-
P.R.	NA	262	123	-	10	9	NA	109	NA	NA	3	3
V.I.	NA	25	6	-	1	1	NA	5	NA	NA	1	-
Pac. Trust Terr.	NA	1	6	-	-	-	NA	9	NA	NA	1	-

NA: Not available.

All delayed reports and corrections will be included in the following week's cumulative totals.

TABLE III (Cont.'d). Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending
September 5, 1981 and August 30, 1980 (35th week)

REPORTING AREA	TUBERCULOSIS		TULA REMIA	TYPHOID FEVER		TYPHUS FEVER (Tick-borne) (RMSF)		VENEREAL DISEASES (Civilian)							RABIES (in Animals)
	1981	CUM. 1981	CUM. 1981	1981	CUM. 1981	1981	CUM. 1981	GONORRHEA			SYPHILIS (Pri. & Sec.)				
								1981	CUM. 1981	CUM. 1980	1981	CUM. 1981	CUM. 1980	CUM. 1980	
UNITED STATES	366	17,936	159	5	333	43	983	15,271	663,556	658,232	559	20,120	17,606	4,910	
NEW ENGLAND	24	521	1	-	13	1	9	286	16,268	16,451	15	403	352	29	
Maine	1	34	-	-	1	-	-	43	860	952	1	4	5	13	
N.H.	NA	16	-	NA	-	NA	-	NA	585	592	NA	11	1	4	
Vt.	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	11	277	384	-	13	5	-	
Mass.	10	302	-	-	7	-	5	NA	6,461	6,863	NA	256	206	7	
R.I.	6	35	-	-	-	1	2	22	925	1,038	1	24	22	-	
Conn.	7	115	1	-	5	-	2	210	7,160	6,622	13	95	113	5	
MID. ATLANTIC	87	2,849	10	1	54	-	37	1,443	78,980	70,213	30	2,955	2,483	64	
Upstate N.Y.	7	508	10	-	11	-	13	308	13,422	12,855	17	281	206	48	
N.Y. City	33	1,100	-	1	25	-	3	NA	32,105	26,478	NA	1,750	1,632	-	
N.J.	25	601	-	-	10	-	9	899	15,438	13,199	10	414	301	11	
Pa.	18	640	-	-	4	-	12	236	18,015	17,681	3	510	344	5	
E.N. CENTRAL	50	2,352	1	1	24	1	45	1,756	98,271	102,780	31	1,369	1,639	670	
Ohio	3	462	-	1	5	-	36	281	32,328	27,267	5	197	250	53	
Ind.	NA	230	-	-	-	-	2	NA	8,412	10,557	NA	153	132	72	
Ill.	31	914	-	-	11	1	6	353	26,323	32,288	-	697	938	448	
Mich.	12	617	1	-	6	-	1	774	22,023	23,027	23	255	256	12	
Wis.	4	129	-	-	2	-	-	348	9,185	9,641	3	67	63	85	
W.N. CENTRAL	7	642	21	1	13	-	38	642	31,867	30,630	16	419	218	2,052	
Minn.	-	115	-	-	2	-	1	NA	4,846	5,120	8	145	76	364	
Iowa	1	70	-	-	3	-	5	95	3,478	3,333	-	16	14	649	
Mo.	6	283	17	1	3	-	20	339	14,866	13,335	7	223	109	183	
N. Dak.	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	8	415	433	-	8	3	315	
S. Dak.	-	44	-	-	1	-	-	20	876	931	-	2	2	236	
Nebr.	-	19	3	-	2	-	3	77	2,436	2,376	-	5	6	150	
Kans.	-	88	1	-	2	-	9	103	4,950	5,102	1	20	8	155	
S. ATLANTIC	103	3,950	12	-	47	28	566	5,829	166,272	164,747	173	5,387	4,165	348	
Del.	1	55	1	-	-	-	2	103	2,657	2,340	2	10	10	1	
Md.	14	400	-	-	14	1	50	746	19,127	17,813	10	395	295	24	
D.C.	1	246	-	-	1	-	-	184	9,620	11,660	4	427	315	-	
Va.	16	411	2	-	1	3	98	483	15,250	14,858	10	471	376	66	
W. Va.	3	125	-	-	5	-	5	84	2,503	2,236	-	16	15	16	
N.C.	15	658	2	-	1	14	240	680	25,622	23,315	16	412	284	7	
S.C.	11	365	3	-	-	7	96	479	16,143	15,590	16	352	236	22	
Ga.	21	649	4	-	4	3	67	1,562	34,665	31,327	48	1,380	1,190	152	
Fla.	17	1,001	-	-	21	-	8	1,508	40,685	45,608	67	1,923	1,444	60	
E.S. CENTRAL	38	1,583	6	-	7	9	108	2,142	56,042	53,405	53	1,347	1,460	314	
Ky.	12	405	2	-	-	-	2	245	6,954	7,988	2	65	102	96	
Tenn.	14	530	4	-	3	5	69	742	21,228	19,340	10	500	614	157	
Ala.	10	418	-	-	2	1	15	898	17,162	15,500	28	391	298	61	
Miss.	-	229	-	-	2	3	22	257	10,698	10,573	13	391	446	-	
W.S. CENTRAL	36	2,028	73	-	48	3	148	2,420	88,129	84,062	236	4,938	3,503	846	
Ark.	10	219	38	-	5	-	31	240	6,594	6,614	10	102	114	115	
La.	-	362	2	-	2	-	-	611	15,177	15,150	31	1,138	860	29	
Okla.	-	241	21	-	3	2	87	248	9,583	8,450	3	113	69	167	
Tex.	26	1,206	12	-	38	1	30	1,321	56,775	53,848	192	3,585	2,460	535	
MOUNTAIN	9	514	30	2	22	1	27	207	25,608	25,496	3	518	433	164	
Mont.	-	27	5	-	4	-	12	28	947	967	-	11	1	84	
Idaho	-	6	4	-	-	-	5	38	1,165	1,124	-	17	15	1	
Wyo.	2	9	1	-	-	-	6	31	606	745	-	8	8	13	
Colo.	2	55	6	2	8	-	-	NA	6,884	6,899	NA	153	113	23	
N. Mex.	3	100	3	-	-	-	-	59	2,788	3,141	-	93	74	24	
Ariz.	NA	236	-	NA	5	NA	-	NA	7,630	6,829	NA	123	154	13	
Utah	-	40	10	-	1	-	1	51	1,264	1,242	1	21	11	3	
Nev.	2	41	1	-	-	1	3	NA	4,324	4,548	2	92	57	3	
PACIFIC	12	3,497	5	-	105	-	5	546	102,119	110,448	2	2,784	3,353	422	
Wash.	10	264	1	-	3	-	1	314	8,525	9,347	-	94	171	11	
Oreg.	1	130	-	-	4	-	-	126	6,185	7,463	2	63	70	8	
Calif.	NA	2,965	4	NA	97	NA	4	NA	82,768	88,787	NA	2,572	2,952	390	
Alaska	-	44	-	-	-	-	-	72	2,635	2,648	-	5	7	14	
Hawaii	1	54	-	-	1	-	-	34	2,006	2,203	-	46	113	-	
Guam	NA	7	-	NA	-	NA	-	NA	47	89	NA	-	4	-	
P.R.	NA	219	-	NA	4	NA	-	NA	2,055	1,820	NA	430	403	53	
V.I.	NA	1	-	NA	6	NA	-	NA	131	108	NA	15	10	-	
Pac. Trust Terr.	NA	38	-	NA	-	NA	-	NA	257	271	NA	-	-	-	

NA: Not available.

All delayed reports and corrections will be included in the following week's cumulative totals.

TABLE IV. Deaths in 121 U.S. cities,* week ending
September 5, 1981 (35th week)

REPORTING AREA	ALL CAUSES, BY AGE (YEARS)						P&I** TOTAL	REPORTING AREA	ALL CAUSES, BY AGE (YEARS)						P&I** TOTAL
	ALL AGES	≥85	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1			ALL AGES	≥85	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	
NEW ENGLAND	€33	431	144	23	19	16	38	S. ATLANTIC	1,159	675	291	56	44	52	27
Boston, Mass.	167	1,02	47	8	3	7	13	Atlanta, Ga.	142	82	32	18	7	3	3
Bridgeport, Conn.	37	24	10	2	1	-	3	Baltimore, Md.	259	147	64	25	8	14	1
Cambridge, Mass.	19	11	8	-	-	-	-	Charlotte, N.C.	54	28	14	5	2	5	1
Fall River, Mass.	25	15	14	-	-	-	-	Jacksonville, Fla.	115	73	25	8	5	4	4
Hartford, Conn.	46	26	13	4	2	1	2	Miami, Fla. §	78	39	24	4	5	6	2
Lowell, Mass.	27	16	10	1	-	-	1	Norfolk, Va.	38	21	11	5	1	-	2
Lynn, Mass.	16	13	1	2	-	-	-	Richmond, Va.	71	41	23	3	3	1	1
New Bedford, Mass.	22	19	3	-	1	-	3	Savannah, Ga.	32	14	10	6	1	1	3
New Haven, Conn.	69	46	12	3	7	1	5	St. Petersburg, Fla.	67	57	5	-	-	1	3
Providence, R.I. §	60	56	-	2	-	2	4	Tampa, Fla.	76	53	13	7	1	2	3
Somerville, Mass.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	Washington, D.C.	153	100	57	14	11	11	3
Springfield, Mass.	42	32	6	-	2	2	3	Wilmington, Del.	34	20	5	1	-	4	-
Waterbury, Conn.	29	20	7	1	-	1	2								
Worcester, Mass.	64	46	13	-	3	2	2								
MID. ATLANTIC	2,397	1,578	542	156	59	62	85	E.S. CENTRAL	724	419	183	53	33	36	28
Albany, N.Y.	51	35	13	3	-	-	-	Birmingham, Ala.	120	70	35	10	1	4	4
Allentown, Pa. §	18	18	-	-	-	-	-	Chattanooga, Tenn.	66	44	16	5	1	-	4
Buffalo, N.Y.	150	106	25	7	5	3	14	Knoxville, Tenn.	43	27	12	3	-	1	-
Camden, N.J.	32	23	8	-	-	1	-	Louisville, Ky.	112	63	27	5	3	14	10
Elizabeth, N.J.	24	21	3	-	-	-	1	Memphis, Tenn.	160	99	36	13	5	3	6
Erie, Pa. †	41	31	10	-	-	-	1	Mobile, Ala.	80	46	17	6	5	6	3
Jersey City, N.J.	46	32	9	2	1	2	2	Montgomery, Ala.	39	20	14	2	2	1	3
N.Y. City, N.Y.	1,242	786	280	102	37	37	41	Nashville, Tenn.	104	50	26	9	12	7	2
Newark, N.J.	43	28	12	2	-	1	1								
Paterson, N.J.	21	16	2	2	-	1	-	W.S. CENTRAL	1,313	706	306	122	64	115	29
Philadelphia, Pa. †	310	190	81	21	7	11	11	Austin, Tex.	34	25	3	3	3	-	1
Pittsburgh, Pa. †	55	36	16	2	1	-	2	Baton Rouge, La.	29	16	6	3	1	3	2
Reading, Pa.	25	22	2	1	-	-	1	Corpus Christi, Tex.	39	21	10	6	1	1	1
Rochester, N.Y.	113	76	26	3	3	5	4	Dallas, Tex.	206	108	59	17	9	13	4
Schenectady, N.Y.	32	25	6	1	-	-	1	El Paso, Tex.	84	46	17	10	8	3	5
Scranton, Pa. †	25	20	4	1	-	-	-	Fort Worth, Tex.	108	70	18	6	2	12	2
Syracuse, N.Y.	67	46	14	1	5	1	-	Houston, Tex.	362	141	88	45	19	69	3
Trenton, N.J.	48	34	10	4	-	-	3	Little Rock, Ark.	73	50	10	6	1	6	5
Utica, N.Y.	28	17	9	2	-	-	-	New Orleans, La.	123	69	34	5	7	4	1
Yonkers, N.Y.	26	16	8	2	-	-	3	San Antonio, Tex.	130	80	32	5	6	3	3
								Shreveport, La.	49	31	12	3	6	-	1
								Tulsa, Okla.	76	49	17	5	4	1	1
E.N. CENTRAL	2,198	1,300	563	150	82	103	62	MOUNTAIN	602	346	151	42	28	32	19
Akron, Ohio	42	23	13	-	3	3	-	Albuquerque, N. Mex.	69	42	21	3	2	1	2
Canton, Ohio	39	25	5	5	3	1	3	Colo. Springs, Colo.	19	14	2	2	-	1	1
Chicago, Ill.	513	286	130	46	19	32	12	Denver, Colo.	118	66	28	5	5	14	3
Cincinnati, Ohio	159	101	35	6	4	9	5	Las Vegas, Nev.	59	25	15	7	3	2	1
Cleveland, Ohio	167	95	50	8	3	11	5	Ogden, Utah	20	12	6	1	1	-	1
Columbus, Ohio	133	76	31	8	10	8	7	Phoenix, Ariz.	172	100	36	12	16	8	1
Dayton, Ohio	93	49	27	5	3	5	1	Pueblo, Colo.	12	8	4	-	-	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	235	129	63	27	8	8	9	Salt Lake City, Utah	51	29	14	2	1	5	1
Evansville, Ind.	51	30	16	1	1	3	1	Tucson, Ariz.	82	50	21	10	-	1	8
Fort Wayne, Ind.	52	41	8	1	1	1	2								
Gary, Ind.	23	11	11	-	1	-	1	PACIFIC	1,860	1,195	402	132	69	61	54
Grand Rapids, Mich.	52	35	8	2	1	3	3	Berkeley, Calif.	15	9	5	-	1	-	1
Indianapolis, Ind.	168	96	44	14	7	7	1	Fresno, Calif.	75	47	15	3	5	5	3
Madison, Wis.	54	30	12	2	3	7	2	Glendale, Calif.	39	26	8	1	3	5	1
Milwaukee, Wis.	124	85	30	4	4	1	3	Honolulu, Hawaii	62	35	17	5	3	2	5
Peoria, Ill.	52	34	12	1	2	1	2	Long Beach, Calif.	82	52	20	4	3	3	1
Rockford, Ill.	36	25	6	1	3	1	2	Los Angeles, Calif.	686	444	144	51	25	22	18
South Bend, Ind.	37	23	13	1	-	-	-	Oakland, Calif.	65	47	10	6	2	-	1
Toledo, Ohio	107	61	25	12	4	1	4	Pasadena, Calif.	34	19	7	4	1	3	-
Youngstown, Ohio	60	39	16	2	2	1	1	Portland, Ore.	116	78	17	5	6	6	6
								Sacramento, Calif.	75	50	11	5	4	4	1
W.N. CENTRAL	685	459	135	30	27	30	25	San Diego, Calif.	123	73	35	7	4	4	5
Des Moines, Iowa	55	37	13	2	2	1	1	San Francisco, Calif.	150	100	33	9	4	4	4
Duluth, Minn.	32	23	6	2	1	-	2	San Jose, Calif.	165	100	43	12	5	5	9
Kansas City, Kans.	37	28	6	1	-	2	2	Seattle, Wash.	104	70	15	11	2	2	2
Kansas City, Mo.	112	66	27	4	7	8	4	Spokane, Wash.	41	27	8	5	1	-	2
Lincoln, Neb.	19	17	1	-	-	1	1	Tacoma, Wash.	24	18	6	-	-	-	1
Minneapolis, Minn.	64	36	15	4	4	5	2								
Omaha, Neb.	106	71	22	10	2	1	5	TOTAL	11,571 ††	7,109	2,721	804	425	507	367
St. Louis, Mo.	143	92	33	4	7	7	2								
St. Paul, Minn.	64	50	9	1	1	3	2								
Wichita, Kans.	53	39	7	2	3	2	4								

*Mortality data in this table are voluntarily reported from 121 cities in the United States, most of which have populations of 100,000 or more. A death is reported by the place of its occurrence and by the week that the death certificate was filed. Fetal deaths are not included.

**Pneumonia and influenza

†Because of changes in reporting methods in these 4 Pennsylvania cities, these numbers are partial counts for the current week. Complete counts will be available in 4 to 6 weeks.

††Total includes unknown ages.

‡Data not available this week. Figures are estimates based on average percent of regional totals.

Syphilis Trends - Continued

TABLE 2. Reported congenital syphilis among infants (<1 year old), United States and Puerto Rico, 1979 and 1980

Area	Number of cases		Cases per 1,000 women with primary/secondary syphilis*
	1979	1980	
Alabama	2	2	16.1
Alaska	0	0	0
Arizona	3	0	30.9
Arkansas	0	1	—
California	23	8	31.8
Colorado	0	1	—
Connecticut	3	0	38.0
Delaware	0	0	0
District of Columbia	2	11	60.5
Florida	7	3	7.0
Georgia	4	6	10.0
Hawaii	0	1	—
Idaho	0	1	—
Illinois	14	9	28.1
Indiana	3	4	59.8
Iowa	0	1	—
Kansas	1	0	0
Kentucky	0	2	26.3
Louisiana	7	2	10.9
Maine	0	0	0
Maryland	0	0	0
Massachusetts	3	1	65.6
Michigan	1	0	—
Minnesota	0	0	0
Mississippi	2	1	6.6
Missouri	3	1	74.1
Montana	0	1	—
Nebraska	0	0	0
Nevada	0	0	0
New Hampshire	0	0	0
New Jersey	4	4	33.2
New Mexico	2	0	39.2
New York	9	15	27.7
North Carolina	2	0	5.9
North Dakota	0	0	0
Ohio	5	1	26.3
Oklahoma	0	0	0
Oregon	1	1	66.7
Pennsylvania	0	0	0
Rhode Island	0	0	0
South Carolina	2	2	18.0
South Dakota	0	0	0
Tennessee	3	6	17.5
Texas	15	14	14.9
Utah	0	1	—
Vermont	0	0	0
Virginia	1	4	20.3
Washington	1	0	—
West Virginia	0	1	—
Wisconsin	0	2	40.8
Wyoming	0	0	0
Puerto Rico	6	4	29.2
Total	129	111	

*Ratio based on data for 1979 and 1980 combined and computed only for areas with 2 or more congenital syphilis cases.

Current Trends

Nomenclature for Strains of Poliovirus

In 1951 the Committee on Typing of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis reported that polioviruses should be assigned to 1 of 3 serologic types.

Subsequently, intratypic antigenic differences were established by means of sero-differentiation tests but, despite further refinement over the years, the difficulty of obtaining suitably specific sera has tended to limit the scope of possible studies.

More recent work on the epidemiology of poliovirus strains has led to the use of highly strain-specific absorbed sera and oligonucleotide mapping (fingerprinting) procedures (7). A WHO group of experts meeting at the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control, Hampstead, London, 6-8 October 1980, discussed the application of these methods and noted that the recent occurrence of cases of type 1 poliomyelitis in the Netherlands, Canada and the U.S.A. could be shown by these tests to have a common strain origin (2). In addition, all recent type 3 poliovirus isolates tested from whatever source in the United Kingdom could be shown to be related to the vaccine strain. The ability to characterize strains serologically and biochemically is of considerable epidemiologic importance and should be linked to a better system of nomenclature.

The group of experts proposed that future poliovirus isolates should be identified by type, country (or city), strain number and year of isolation. Thus P1/England/119/65 indicates a type 1 poliovirus strain 119 isolated in England in 1965.

WHO recommends that for the future (i.e., from the date of this note) whenever reference is made to a poliovirus strain not previously described in a publication, it should be identified by this system of nomenclature.

Reported in Weekly Epidemiological Record 1981;56:231.

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International Notes

Acute Hemorrhagic Conjunctivitis — Latin America

Extensive outbreaks of acute hemorrhagic conjunctivitis (AHC) have been reported from northern South America, Central America, and the Caribbean (7). Although epidemics of AHC have occurred in the Eastern Hemisphere since 1969, these are the first reports of extensive disease in the Western Hemisphere. Thousands of cases have been seen in Colombia, Guyana, Surinam and Honduras. Twelve hundred have been reported in Belize and 228 in Trinidad.

The illness has typically been characterized by sudden onset of bilateral conjunctival injection, profuse watery discharge, itching, foreign body sensation, lid edema, and ocular pain. Subconjunctival hemorrhage has been reported for 10% to 100% of ill per-

Hemorrhagic Conjunctivitis – Continued

sons. Systemic symptoms have not been seen, and only patients with secondary bacterial infections have had permanent ophthalmologic sequelae. Most ill persons have recovered completely in 3-10 days. Conjunctival swab specimens for virus isolation are currently being processed at the Caribbean Epidemiology Center (CAREC) and CDC.

Reported by Caribbean Epidemiology Center, Trinidad, Port of Spain; Pan American Health Organization, Washington, DC; World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland; Viral Diseases Div, Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC.

Editorial Note: Enterovirus 70 is the agent most frequently associated with epidemics of AHC; however, adenovirus 11 and a Coxsackievirus A24 variant have also been implicated (2,3). AHC is extremely contagious; is transmitted by contaminated fingers, clothing, or towels, and is characterized by a short incubation period, high secondary attack rate, and rapid spread in the community (4). The clinical illness described in these outbreaks is typical of and consistent with that in outbreaks of AHC in the Eastern Hemisphere. Although not reported from Latin America, radiculomyelitis with flaccid paralysis has been seen in Taiwan, Thailand, and India following infection with enterovirus 70 infection (5). Increased surveillance for this extremely rare complication is encouraged.

Because AHC is most readily transmitted in humid, crowded, coastal populations, continued spread may be anticipated in Latin America. While the introduction of AHC into the United States from Latin America is possible, the likelihood of community spread is, as yet, unknown. An earlier serosurvey revealed that enterovirus 70 antibodies were generally absent from the southeastern U.S. population (6). Enterovirus 70 is known to have been introduced into the United States in 1980 by Southeast Asian refugees. However, no evidence of secondary spread has been reported (7).

Physicians in the United States are encouraged to report cases of conjunctivitis compatible with AHC to their local and/or state health departments.

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The editor welcomes accounts of interesting cases, outbreaks, environmental hazards, or other public health problems of current interest to health officials. Send reports to: Attn: Editor, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia 30333.

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