CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL



# MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT

Epidemiologic Notes and Reports

# Farm-Tractor Associated Deaths — Georgia

From 1971 to 1981, a study to characterize Georgia deaths associated with farm-tractor accidents was undertaken as a basis for developing preventive recommendations. For each death certificate listing a farm-tractor accident as the cause or contributing cause of death, information was abstracted concerning the characteristics of the victim and the accident.

Two hundred two tractor-associated fatalities occurred in Georgia during the study period; 198 (98%) of the victims were male; 166 (82%) were white, and 30 (15%) were black. Accidents occurred during all months-but predominantly in March, April, July, and August-and throughout the day, with a peak between 4 and 5 p.m. All deaths involved persons living in rural areas. Accidents occurred in 103 of Georgia's 159 counties, but were concentrated in the mountainous and hilly northern counties (Figure 1). Most accidents happened on farms; 18 occurred on roads.

The majority of deaths occurred among older men. Data from the U.S. Census and the Department of Agriculture permitted estimation of fatality rates for Georgia males. Based on figures for the subpopulation of male farm residents, the crude annual fatality rate was 23.6/100,000 (Table 1). Farming was listed as the primary occupation for 82 persons; other listings included construction, manufacturing, common laborer, military, sales, mechanic, student, and retired.

A variety of events resulted in fatal injury: 153 persons (76%) were fatally injured when the tractors overturned; 28 were run over; and six drowned when their tractors fell into a stream or lake. Eighty-three percent of fatalities were attributed to crushing chest injury; other causes of death were external hemorrhage, strangulation or asphyxia, and drowning.

Reported by JD Smith, DL Rogers, RK Sikes, DVM, State Epidemiologist, Georgia Dept of Human Resources; Div of Field Svcs, Epidemiology Program Office, CDC.

Editorial Note: This study suggests that farm-tractor associated deaths are more likely to occur during the planting and harvesting seasons and during late afternoon hours, that acci-

Age group	Number of deaths	Mortality rate*
< 20	21	6.7
20-39	32	22.3
40-59	65	27.6
≥60	80	54.1
Total	198	23.6

TABLE 1. Annual fatality rate\* for deaths associated with farm-tractor accidents -Georgia, 1971-1981

483 Reducing Exposures to Airborne Lead

Georgia

- in Indoor Firing Ranges United States 489 Patient-Source Scabies among
- Hospital Personnel Pennsylvania 490 Post-Smallpox Eradication Surveillance

\*Deaths/100,000 male farm residents.

## Farm-Tractor Deaths - Continued

dents are more prevalent in north Georgia, and that older males are the most common victims. Although the total number of persons using tractors on farms is unknown, the higher incidence in north Georgia may result from an increased likelihood of tractors overturning on hilly terrain, and the higher fatality rates among older men may be due to physiologic impairment or other age-related factors. A preliminary review of 16 fatal farm-tractor accidents in 1982 indicates that most accidents involved tractors over 10 years old with small horsepower (20-40 hp) that were not equipped with roll-over protection structures.

The large proportion of fatalities associated with rollovers implies the need for improved measures to protect the users when tractors overturn. Such measures are commercially available and include different types of roll bars or protective cabs; however, current safety standards require the use of roll-over protection structures only in limited circumstances and do not apply to farm owners or their families. The increased risk of fatality among older men may indicate that educational efforts can be directed at specific groups. Deaths represent the most extreme consequence of tractor accidents, and a much greater number of serious and disabling injuries probably occur. Improved use of protective measures should prevent both morbidity and mortality due to farm accidents.





# Reducing Exposures to Airborne Lead in Indoor Firing Ranges — United States

Between 1980 and 1982, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) completed nine evaluations of exposures to lead in indoor firing ranges (1). Results show that exposure of shooters to airborne lead is greatly reduced by replacing traditional lead bullets with nylon-clad, copper-jacketed, or zinc ammunition.

Investigators conducted studies in municipal, state, and federal government firing ranges in Alabama, Georgia, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Vermont, and Washington, D.C. Personal breathing-zone air samples were obtained to measure lead exposure of 90 persons firing weapons during qualifying tests with .38 caliber revolvers. The samples were analyzed for lead by atomic absorption spectrophotometry (2).

When shooters were firing lead bullets, their mean lead exposure was 110  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>, calculated as an 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA). Forty-two (89%) of 47 exposures exceeded the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standard (*3*) for occupational exposure to lead (50  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> as an 8-hour TWA) (Table 2). When nylon-clad, zinc, and copper-jacketed bullets were being fired, the mean exposures to airborne lead were 41, 22, and 10  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively, calculated as 8-hour TWAs. While these alternate types of ammunition were being fired, three (7%) of the 43 samples studied exceeded the OSHA standard for occupational exposure to lead.

Reported by Hazard Evaluations and Technical Assistance Br, Div of Surveillance, Hazard Evaluations, and Field Studies, NIOSH, CDC.

**Editorial Note:** There are an estimated 16,000-18,000 indoor firing ranges in the United States (4) and an estimated 1,178,000 people employed in law enforcement (5). Hence, alternatives that reduce exposures to airborne lead in indoor firing ranges have important implications for the health and safety of these workers. Several previous studies have documented the occupational hazard of exposure to lead in indoor firing ranges, particularly among range masters and instructors (6, 7). Major sources of such exposures are lead bullets (from which airborne particles are released during firing) and primers containing lead styphnate (a highly explosive compound used to initiate the combustion of gunpowder in the cartridge).

These exposures may be reduced by limiting the time a shooter or other person spends in the range and/or by improving the range's ventilation. In 1975, NIOSH developed criteria for the design and ventilation of indoor firing ranges (8). However, they are difficult to implement, particularly as "retrofits" of existing ranges, and high-efficiency ventilation is costly to install and operate. Also, while the criteria, when implemented, were sufficient to result in lead exposures below the then-current OSHA standard of 200  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>, their ability to produce levels meeting the current standard is less certain.

TABLE 2. Comparison of the concentrations of airborne lead in personal breathing zones
of shooters firing various types of bullets - United States

Bullet type	Number of firing ranges	Number of air samples	Mean sampling time (min.)	Air g leve Mea	borne lead els (μg/m <sup>3</sup> ) n Range	Mean 8-Hour time- weighted average exposure (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Lead	6	47	25	3,000	ND*-33,000	0 110
Nylon-clad	2	10	29	740	400-1,200	41
Zinc	4	22	36	150	ND-580	22
Copper-jacketed	3	11	20	300	ND-580	10

\*None detected (below sampling and analytical limit of detection)

## Exposures to Airborne Lead – Continued

These circumstances have prompted the search for more utilitarian control technologies. Substitution of a less toxic substance for a hazardous one has been found to be an efficient and effective primary preventive measure in occupational safety and health. Results of previous laboratory investigations showed that substituting unleaded materials for lead bullets and primers could reduce lead emissions from those sources (9, 10). The present study documents the efficacy of this substitution under conditions of actual use.

There are disadvantages to the use of alternate bullets that must be considered; they include the increased cost of clad or jacketed bullets (although this cost in the long run may be less than that of operating a high-efficiency ventilation system) and possible safety hazards caused by the propensity of zinc bullets to "bounce back" from the bullet traps in some ranges.

#### References

 National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. Health hazard evaluation and technical assistance report nos.: HETA 80-000-011; HETA 80-079-753; HETA 80-072-755; HETA 81-010-890; HETA 81-019-846; HETA 81-470-1040; HETA 81-303-947; HETA 82-380-1219; and HETA 82-195-1200. Cincinnati, Ohio: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 1980-1982.

(Continued on page 489)

		3	37th Week Endin	g	Cumulative, 37th Week Ending				
	Disease	September 17,	September 18,	Median	September 17,	September 18,	Median		
		1983	1982	1978-1982	1983	1982	1978-1982		
Aseptic meni	naitis	508	400	400	7.070	5.707	4.819		
Encephalitis:	Primary (arthropod-borne				.,				
•	& unspec.)	76	80	67	1.070	988	802		
	Post-infectious	3	2	3	61	62	158		
Gonorrhea:	Civilian	17,126	19,941	20.955	629,184	675.728	700,978		
	Military	524	621	525	17,165	19,229	19,590		
Hepatitis:	Type A	358	518	518	15.000	15.866	19.674		
•	Type B	393	430	353	16.082	15,148	12.346		
	Non A. Non B	50	47	N	2.372	1.645	N		
	Unspecified	160	178	179	5.486	6.068	7,139		
Legionellosis		9	20	N	493	413	N		
Leprosv		5	4	2	177	148	133		
Malaria		14	35	19	560	785	785		
Measles : Tot	ai¥	9	8	39	1.229	1.221	12.052		
Ind	igenous	9	Ň	N	1.020	Ň	Ň		
Im	orted	-	N	N	209	N	N		
Meningococc	al infections. Total	31	45	30	2.080	2,257	1,990		
	Civilian	31	44	30	2.065	2,244	1,976		
	Military	-	1	-	15	13	14		
Mumps	······tar y	19	53	53	2.455	4,261	7,113		
Pertussis		29	37	41	1.598	1.069	1,069		
Rubella (Gem	nan measles)	4	21	29	779	2,002	3,264		
Syphilis (Prim	ary & Secondary) Civilian	656	752	549	22,730	23,357	18,719		
- / -	Military	6	14	9	287	309	227		
Toxic-shock	syndrome	8	N	Ň	290	N	N		
Tuberculosis	,	505	507	507	16.510	17,836	19,100		
Tularemia		3	6	6	233	177	153		
Typhoid feve		11	11	11	288	284	348		
Typhus fever	tick-borne (BMSE)	40	27	23	1,027	827	874		
Rabies, anima		115	137	109	4,302	4,588	4,588		

#### TABLE I. Summary-cases specified notifiable diseases, United States

#### TABLE II. Notifiable diseases of low frequency, United States

	Cum. 1983		Cum. 1983
Anthrax	-	Plague	34
Botulism: Foodborne (Ariz. 1)	14	Poliomyelitis: Total	4
Infant (N.C. 1, Utah 1, Calif. 1)	45	Paralytic	4
Other	-	Psittacosis (Calif. 2)	91
Brucellosis (Va. 1, Fla. 1, Tex. 3)	146	Rabies, human	2
Cholera	1 1	Tetanus (N.C. 1)	53
Congenital rubella syndrome (Calif. 1)	17	Trichinosis	26
Diphtheria	1 1	Typhus fever, flea-borne (endemic, murine)	40
Leptospirosis (Mo. 1)	36		1

\*There were no cases of internationally imported measles reported for this week.

	Aseptic	Encer	ohalitis	Con		н	epatitis (V	/iral), by ty	pe	Lasianal		
Reporting Area	Menin- gitis	Primary	Post-in- fectious	(Civ	ilian)	A	В	NA,NB	Unspeci- fied	losis	Leprosy	Malaria
	1983	Cum. 1983	Cum. 1983	Cum. 1983	Cum. 1982	1983	1983	1983	1983	1983	Cum. 1983	Cum. 1983
UNITED STATES	508	1,070	61	629,184	675,728	358	393	50	160	9	177	560
NEW ENGLAND	13	43	-	15,978	16,178	5	17	1	8	2	3	26
Maine	2	÷	-	798	822	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
N.H. Vt	2	5		316	305	2	1	-	-	-	2	1
Mass	3	20	-	6,859	7,275	1	8	-	8	-	-	12
R.I.	-	1	•	894	1,097		2	-	-	2	-	3
Conn.	D	10	-	6,591	6,120	'	5	-	-	-		9
MID ATLANTIC	54	91	5	79,813	83,407	46	70	1	20	1	24	77
Upstate N.Y.	14	20	-	12,510	13,635	10	16	-	2	-	22	22
N.T. City	-	16	-	15 054	15 398	17	25	1	14	-	- 25	22
Pa	32	45	5	20,228	20,129	10	25	-	3	-	1	12
EN CENTRAL	108	364	20	88 170	97.079	20	34	4	12	1	5	43
Ohio	22	109	9	23,531	26,520	2	6	2	4		ĩ	6
Ind	40	143	1	9,170	11,199	4	12	1	7	-	-	2
IN.	5	17	7	22,900	27,602	12	7	1		1	2	16
Wis.	-	27	3	8,057	8,676		-	-		-	-	5
				00.075				•	~			- 1
W.N. CENTRAL	/8	83	8	29,375	31,854	9	29	3	3	-	4	6
lowa	18	46	-	3,293	3,358	-	i	i	-	-	-	3
Mo	51	14	-	14,004	15,174	3	27	1	2	-	1	2
N. Dak	-	-		310	420	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
S. Dak. Nebr	-	3	-	1.927	1,944	1	-		-	-	-	i
Kans	9	1	5	4,881	5,518	1	-	-	1	-	1	6
S ATLANTIC	112	155	15	163 733	177 346	39	105	10	21	2	9	85
Del		-	-	2,946	2,834	1	3	-	-	-	-	1
Md.	10	18	-	20,873	22,039	2	16	1	2	-	1	14
D.C. Va	18	37	2	14,629	13,910	4	11	5	3	-	1	16
W. Va.	4	26	-	1,764	2,008	2	2		-	-	-	1
N.C.	40	32	-	25,201	28,011	1	16	:	3	-	-	3
S.C.	5	3	1	15,390	17,222	4 3	20	1	1		1	5 8
Fla	25	33 3	12	39,146	45,956	22	26	ż	10	1	6	24
	30	48	1	52 876	58 4 5 9	16	22	3	2	2	-	7
KV.	14	9	-	6,260	7,873	11		-	ī	-	-	-
Tenn	9	13	-	21,826	22,957	2	8	1	1	-	-	:
Ala	5	22	1	16,184	17,345	3	9	2	-	2	-	5
WISS.	2	-	•	0,000	10,204		-	-				-
W.S. CENTRAL	31	123	2	90,192	93,219	92	46	2	62	-	22	52
Ark	1	16	-	17 698	16 628	13	8	-	3	-	1	8
Okla.	ġ	25	1	10,423	10,261	12	6	2	3	-	-	10
Tex	20	76	1	55,110	58,610	65	31	-	50	-	21	33
MOUNTAIN	23	46	4	20,148	22,833	41	11	5	7	1	12	23
Mont.	2	2	-	840	942	1	1	-	-	-	-	:
Idaho	-	1	-	850	1,111	3	•	-	-	-	-	2
Wyo.	13	23	-	5.664	6.144	5	4	2	i	-	2	8
N. Mex.	1	1	-	2,501	3,011	2	1	2	1	-	-	5
Ariz	-	8	4	5,695	5,960	13	1	1	2	1	9	4
Utah	25	9	-	3.114	3.891	6	3	-	2	-		-
				•,			•					
PACIFIC	59	117	6	88,899	95,353	85	59	21	25	-	96	226
vvash. Oreg		- 12	2	4,782	5.524	20	б 5	4	2	-	1	.0
Calif	36	98	3	73,217	77,586	58	45	15	23	-	56	207
Alaska	5	- 7	-	2,365	2,397	:	1	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii	8	,	-	1,701	1,849	1	-	-	-	-	24	1
Guam	ň	-	:	87	106	ŭ	U	U	U	U	-	2
P.R.	5	-	1	1,827	1,988	5	17	-	10	:	-	2
Pac. Trust Terr.	U	-	-		338	Ū	บ่	Ū	Ū	U	-	-

# TABLE III. Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending September 17, 1983 and September 18, 1982 (37th week)

N: Not notifiable

U: Unavailable

# TABLE III. (Cont.'d). Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending September 17, 1983 and September 18, 1982 (37th week)

Indigenous         I           1983         Cum. 1983         19           UNITED STATES         9 1,020           NEW ENGLAND         -         2           Maine         -         -           NH.         -         -           VITED STATES         9 1,020           NEW ENGLAND         -         2           Maine         -         -           Mass.         -         2           R.I.         -         -           Conn.         -         -           Upstate NY.         -         1           N.Y. City         -         43           N.J.         -         26           Pa         -         -           EN. CENTRAL         9         594           Ohio         -         72           Mich.         -         2           Wis.         -         -           Wis.         -         -	Imported* 983 Cum, 1983 - 209 - 14 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 8 - 24 - 8 - 12 - 1 - 3 - 3 - 13 - 4 - 33 - 5 - 1 - 3 - 5 - 1 - 3 - 5 - 1 - 3 - 5 - 1 - 3 - 5 - 1 - 3 - 5 - 1 - 6 - 6 - 6 - 6 - 6 - 6 - 6 - 6 - 6 - 6	Total Cum, 1982 1,221 13 - 2 2 3 3 - 6 158 109 41 4 4 4 4 75 1 2 24 48	gococcal Infections Cum, 1983 2,080 106 8 3 7 35 8 45 345 109 64 55 117 386 116 45 116 45 116	1983 19 - - - 3 1 1 1 1 1 3 1	Mumps Cum. 1983 2,455 99 16 19 14 24 12 14 14 19 77 33 345	Cum. 1982 4,261 164 39 15 7 7 7 00 15 18 267 63 45 38 21	1983 29 2 - - - - 6 4 - - 2	Pertussis Cum. 1983 1,598 51 4 6 7 28 5 1 28 5 1 311 98 47 18	Cum. 1982 1,069 42 4 4 2 20 10 2 207 83 300 20	1983 4 - - - - - - - - - - - -	Rubella Cum. 1983 779 13 - 4 3 6 - - 135 26 86 3	Cum. 1982 2,002 14 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
1983         Cum. 1983         19           UNITED STATES         9 1,020           NEW ENGLAND         -           Maine         -           NH.         -           Vt.         -           Mass.         -           RI.         -           Conn.         -           VLY.         -           MID ATLANTIC         70           Upstate NY.         -           NJ.         -           Pa.         -           EN. CENTRAL         9           9         125           Mich.         -           9         125           Mich.         -           Yis.         -           Wis.         -	BB3         Cum. 1983           -         209           -         14           -         3           -         3           -         3           -         18           -         2           -         3           -         12           -         13           -         13           -         13           -         13           -         13           -         14           -         33           -         14           -         56           -         13           -         4           -         33           -         1           -         6	Cum. 1982 1,221 13 - 2 2 2 3 - 6 158 109 41 4 4 4 75 1 2 24 48 -	Cum. 1983 2,080 106 8 3 7 35 8 45 345 109 64 55 117 386 116 45 116 416	1983 19 - - - 3 1 1 1 1 3 1	Cum. 1983 2,455 99 16 19 14 24 14 14 21 14 19 77 33 34 55	Cum. 1982 4,261 164 39 15 7 7 0 15 18 267 63 45 38 21	1983 29 2 - - - - 6 4 - -	Cum. 1983 1,598 51 4 6 7 28 5 1 311 98 47 18	Cum, 1982 1,069 42 4 4 2 20 10 2 207 83 30 207	1983 4 - - - - - - -	Cum. 1983 779 13 - 4 3 6 - - 135 26 86 8 3	Cum. 1982 2,002 14 8 - 2 1 3 98 48 32 17
UNITED STATES 9 1,020 NEW ENGLAND - 2 Maine NH Vt Mass 2 - Mass 2 - MID ATLANTIC - 70 Upstate N.Y 1 N.Y. City - 43 N.J 26 Pa EN. CENTRAL 9 594 Ohio - 72 Mich 2 Mich 2 Wis W.N. CENTRAL - Minn Image - -	- 209 - 14 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 8 - 24 - 8 - 24 - 12 - 13 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 14 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3	1,221 13 2 2 3 - 6 158 109 41 4 4 4 75 1 2 24 4 8 - - - - - - - - - - - - -	2,080 106 8 37 35 8 45 345 109 64 55 117 386 116 45 115	19 - - - 3 1 - 1 1 3 1	2,455 99 16 19 14 24 12 14 199 77 33 33 55	4,261 164 39 15 7 70 15 18 267 63 45 38 121	29 2 - - 2 - 6 4 - 2	1,598 51 4 6 7 28 5 1 311 98 47 18	1,069 42 4 20 10 2 207 83 30 20	4	779 13 4 3 6 - 135 26 86 3	2,002 14 - 8 - 2 1 3 98 48 32 17
NEW ENGLAND         -         2           Maine         -         -           NH.         -         -           Vt.         -         -           Mass.         -         2           RI.         -         -           Conn.         -         -           MID ATLANTIC         70         -           Upstate N.Y.         -         1           N.Y. City         -         43           N.J.         -         26           Pa.         -         -           EN. CENTRAL         9         594           Ohio         -         72           Ind.         -         395           III.         9         125           Mich.         -         2           Wis.         -         -           Win. CENTRAL         -         -           Win. CENTRAL         -         -	- 14 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 8 - 24 - 12 - 12 - 13 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 -	13 2 2 3 3 - 6 158 109 41 4 4 4 7 5 1 2 24 48	106 8 3 7 35 8 45 345 109 64 55 117 386 116 45 116 115	- - - 3 1 - 1 1 3 1	99 16 19 14 24 12 14 199 77 33 34 55	164 39 15 7 70 15 18 267 63 45 38 121	2 2 6 4 2	51 6 7 28 5 1 311 98 47 18	42 4 20 10 2 207 83 30 20	-	13 4 3 6 - 135 26 86 3	14 8 2 1 3 98 48 32 17
Maine       -         NH.       -         Vt.       -         Mass.       -         Conn.       -         Conn.       -         MID ATLANTIC       70         Upstate N.Y.       -         N.J.       -         Pa.       -         EN. CENTRAL       9         594       -         Ohio       -         Id.       9         Jud.       -         Wis.       -         Wis.       -         Win. CENTRAL       -         Minn.       -	- 3 - 3 - 3 - 8 - 24 - 12 - 1 - 3 - 33 - 33 - 4 - 33 - 1 - 3 - 3 - 1 - 3 - 3 - 1 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 4 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 1 - 3 - 1 - 3 - 1 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3	2 2 3 158 109 4 4 4 75 1 2 24 8	8 3 7 35 8 45 345 109 64 55 117 386 116 45 115	- - - 3 1 - 1 1 3 1	16 19 14 24 12 14 199 77 33 34 55	39 15 7 15 18 267 63 45 38 121	- 2 - 6 4 - 2	4 6 7 28 5 1 311 98 47 18	4 20 10 2 207 83 30 20	-	4 3 6 - 135 26 86 3	8 2 1 3 98 48 32 17
Min.     -       Mass.     -       Mass.     -       Conn.     -       Conn.     -       MDATLANTIC     70       Upstate N.Y.     -       NJ.     43       N.Y. City     -       Pa.     -       EN. CENTRAL     9       John     -       Jil.     9       10.     -       Wis.     -       Wis.     -       Win. CENTRAL     -       Jiman.     -	-3 -3 -24 -24 -24 -32 -32 -33 -56 -33 -35 -1 -6	2 3 3 - 6 158 109 4 4 4 75 1 2 24 8 48	3 7 35 8 45 345 109 64 55 117 386 116 45 115	- - - 3 1 - 1 1 3 1	19 14 24 12 14 199 77 33 34 55	7 70 15 18 267 63 45 38 121	- 2 - 6 4 - 2	6 7 28 5 1 311 98 47 18	4 20 10 2 207 83 30 20	-	4 3 - - 135 26 86 3	8 2 1 3 98 48 32 17
Mass.       -       2         R.I.       -       -         Conn.       -       -         MID ATLANTIC       -       70         Upstate N.Y.       -       1         N.Y. City       -       43         Pa.       -       -         EN. CENTRAL       9       594         Ohio       -       72         Ind.       -       395         III.       9       125         Wis.       -       -         Wis.       -       -         Win. CENTRAL       -       -         Win.       -       -         Win.       -       -         Win.       -       -         Win.       -       -         Winn.       -       -	- 3 - 8 - 24 - 12 - 12 - 3 - 56 - 13 - 4 - 33 - 5 - 1 - 1 - 6	3 - 6 158 109 41 4 4 4 75 1 2 24 24 8	35 8 45 345 109 64 55 117 386 116 45 115	- - 3 1 - 1 1 3	24 12 14 199 77 33 34 55	70 15 18 267 63 45 38 121	2 6 4 2	28 5 1 311 98 47 18	20 10 2 207 83 30 20	-	135 26 86 3	2 1 3 98 48 32 17
R.I.       -       -         Conn.       -       -         MID ATLANTIC       -       70         Upstate N.Y.       -       1         N.Y. City       -       43         Pa.       -       -         E.N. CENTRAL       9       594         Ohio       -       72         Ind.       -       395         Ill.       9       125         Mich.       -       2         Wis.       -       -         W.N. CENTRAL       -       -         Win.       -       -         Onio       -       -         Ny. CENTRAL       -       -         Owa       -       -	- 24 - 24 - 8 - 12 - 12 - 3 - 56 - 13 - 4 - 33 - 5 - 1 - 5 - 1 - 6	6 158 109 41 4 4 75 1 24 24 48	8 45 345 109 64 55 117 386 116 45 115	- 3 1 - 1 1 3	12 14 199 77 33 34 55	15 18 267 63 45 38 121	- 6 4 - 2	5 1 311 98 47 18	10 2 207 83 30 20		135 26 86 3	1 3 98 48 32 17
Conn.         -         -           MID ATLANTIC         -         70           Upstate NY.         -         1           N.Y. City         -         43           N.J.         -         26           Pa.         -         -           EN. CENTRAL         9         594           Ohio         -         72           Ind.         -         395           III.         9         125           Mich.         -         2           Wis.         -         -           Win. CENTRAL         -         -           Minn.         -         -	- 24 - 8 - 12 - 1 - 3 - 56 - 13 - 4 - 33 - 5 - 1 - 6	6 158 109 41 4 4 75 1 2 24 48	45 345 109 64 55 117 386 116 45 115	- 3 1 - 1 1 3	14 199 77 33 34 55	18 267 63 45 38 121	- 6 4 - - 2	1 311 98 47 18	2 207 83 30 20	-	135 26 86 3	3 98 48 32 17
MID ATLANTIC       -       70         Upstate NY.       -       1         N.Y. City       -       43         N.J.       -       26         Pa.       -       -         EN. CENTRAL       9       594         Ohio       -       72         Ind.       -       395         III.       9       125         Mich.       -       2         Wis.       -       -         W.N. CENTRAL       -       -         Minn.       -       -         Minn.       -       -	- 24 - 8 - 12 - 1 - 3 - 56 - 13 - 4 - 33 - 5 - 1 - 6	158 109 41 4 75 1 2 24 48	345 109 64 55 117 386 116 45 115	3 1 1 1 3	199 77 33 34 55	267 63 45 38 121	6 4 - 2	311 98 47 18	207 83 30 20	- - -	135 26 86 3	98 48 32 17
Upstate N.Y 1 N.Y. City - 43 N.J 26 Pa E.N. CENTRAL 9 594 Ohio - 72 Ind 395 III. 9 125 Wich 2 Wis Wis W.N. CENTRAL Minn	- 8 - 12 - 1 - 3 - 56 - 13 - 4 - 33 - 5 - 1 - 6	109 41 4 75 1 2 24 48	109 64 55 117 386 116 45 115	1 1 1 3	77 33 34 55	63 45 38 121	4	98 47 18	83 30 20	-	26 86 3	48 32 17
N.J 26 Pa EN.CENTRAL 9 594 Ohio - 72 Ind 395 III. 9 125 Wich 2 Wis Wis Wis	- 12 - 3 - 56 - 13 - 4 - 33 - 5 - 1 - 1 - 6	41 4 75 1 2 24 48	55 117 386 116 45 115	1 1 3 1	33 34 55	45 38 121	2	47	30 20	-	86	32 17
Pa	- 3 - 56 - 13 - 4 - 33 - 5 - 1 - 6	4 75 1 2 24 48	117 386 116 45 115	1 3 1	55	121	2			-		
EN. CENTRAL 9 594 Ohio - 72 Ind 395 Ill. 9 125 Mich 2 Wis WIN. CENTRAL Minn	- 56 - 13 - 4 - 33 - 5 - 1 - 6	75 1 2 24 48	386 116 45 115	3 1			4	148	74	-	20	ï
Ohio         -         72           Ind.         -         395           III.         9         125           Mich.         -         2           Wis.         -         -           WN.CENTRAL         -         -           Minn.         -         -           Jowa         -         -	- 13 - 4 - 33 - 5 - 1 - 6	1 2 24 48	116 45 115	ī	1.187	2 2 5 4	4	332	235	_	108	176
Ind 395 Ill. 9 125 Mich 2 . Wis W.N.CENTRAL Minn	- 4 - 33 - 5 - 1	2 24 48	45 115		540	1,562	ī	109	65	-	2	
m. 9 125 Mich 2 Wis W.N. CENTRAL Minn	- 33 - 5 - 1 - 6	24 48 -	115	-	33	37	-	44	15	-	23	27
Wis WN, CENTRAL	- 1 - 6	40		-	124	255	3	106	98	-	46	65
W.N. CENTRAL	- 6		43	2	422	296	-	26 47	20 37	-	15 22	48 36
Minn		40	114		140	FEO		07	5.		~~	
lowa	-	+3	16	-	27	437	1	37	24	1	3/	56
		-	12	-	36	31	2	6	6	-		-
Mo	- 1	2	57	-	21	9	-	14	14	-	-	38
N. Dak		-	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Nebr	2 2		4	-	-	1	-	7	5	-	-	1
Kans. – –	- 5	44	20	-	54	81	-	32	1	1	30	12
S. ATLANTIC - 163	- 31	41	435	A	164	245	4	101	105			76
Del		-	11	-	8	10	-	3	195	-	92	/5
Md 6	- 4	3	43	1	25	27	-	14	46	-	3	34
D.C		1	5	-			-	-	1	-	-	-
Va 10	- 13	14	62	÷	30	33	-	45	22	-	2	12
N.C	- 1	-	85	i	10	12		22	27	-	10	1
S.C	- 4	-	45	-	8	15	-	13	16	-	1	÷
Ga 8		-	69	1	43	14	2	56	32	-	11	11
ria 139	- 9	20	113	-	-	45	2	30	38	-	65	14
E.S. CENTRAL - 1	- 5	7	127	1	48	47	1	25	42	-	11	44
Tenn		i e	27	-	21	15	1	11	5	-	10	26
Ala 1	- 4		38		22	18	-	6	22	-		2
Miss		-	19	-	3	6	-	4	10		-	16
W.S. CENTRAL - 39	- 35	43	220	3	209	173	1	323	71		106	05
Ark 5	- 8	-	17	-	2	6	-	17	3	-	100	95
La	- 25	2	44	-	45	6	-	6	9	-	9	i
Tex 33	2	27	26 133	- 3	162	161	-	237	5	-	-	3
	-			-	102	101	'	03	54	-	9/	90
Mont	- 3	14	82	2	100	87	8	170	58	-	31	76
Idaho		-	10	-	2	3	-	1	.1	-	5	5
Wyo		1	ž	-	-	2	-	6	2	-	8	57
Colo	- 2	8	27	-	12	16	4	104	16	-	4	6
N. Mex. – – –	- :	2	6	2	-	-	1	11	6	-	-	ő
Utah	- 1	5	16	2	70	37	3	17	21	-	6	14
Nev		-	0 1	-	6 4	19	-	16	1	-	7	21 11
PACIFIC - 151	- 35	821	265	2	200	400	•			_		
Wash - 1	- 4	39	36	-	309	405 64	2 -	98 1e	160	3	246	1,368
Oreg 7	- 2	6	39	-				6	20	-	12	38
Calit 142	- 27	770	181	3	244	385	2	7Ŏ	85	3	219	1,312
Maska · Hawaii - 1	- 2	1	2	-	12	7	-	4	-	-	1	5
	- <b>-</b>	5	'	-	15	9	-	2	28	-	1	7
Guam U 1 L PR 5 94	U 1	6 103	1	U	1	_3	U	-	-	υ	-	2
V.I	- 5			1	112	57	1	10	20	-	4	11
Pac. Trust Terr. U - L	U -				-		-	-	-	-		

\*For measles only, imported cases includes both out-of-state and international importations.

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		Septembe	or 17, 1983	and Sept	tember 18	, 1982 (3	7th week)		
Reporting Area	Syphilis (Primary &	(Civilian) Secondary)	Toxic- shock Syndrome	Tuber	culosis	Tula- remia	Typhoid Fever	Typhus Fever (Tick-borne) (RMSF)	Rabies, Animal
	Cum. 1983	Cum. 1982	1983	1983	Cum. 1983	Cum. 1983	Cum. 1983	Cum. 1983	Cum. 1983
UNITED STATES	22,730	23,357	8	505	16,510	233	288	1,027	4,302
NEW ENGLAND	475 15	402 4	-	4	467 27	4	11	6	23
N.H.	17	4	-	-	30	-	-	1	2
Vt. Mass.	295	265	-		250	3	9	2	9
R.I. Conn.	16 131	19 108	-	4	31 120	1	2	3	- 5
MID ATLANTIC	2,869	3,195	-	117	2,950	1	49	24	201
Upstate N.Y. N.Y. City	1,725	343 1,900	-	40 28	499	-	16	1	
N.J. Pa.	561 381	434 518	-	16 33	632 658	-	20 6	8 9	22 111
E.N. CENTRAL	1,143	1,430	-	78	2,199	2	46	70	394
Ohio Ind.	316	143	-	12	343 246	-	3	43	28
III. Mich	509 165	782	-	44	958 537	1	22	14	208
Wis.	64	68	-	5	115	-	-	1	95
W.N. CENTRAL	273 108	398 85	1	21	509 104	70	9 2	51	637 106
lowa	15	22	1	5	46	-	-	25	159
Mo. N. Dak.	2	235		- 13	248	53	-	25	62
S. Dak.	11	1			32 20	4	-	5	96 58
Kans.	24	37	-	3	53	ž	1	17	68
S. ATLANTIC	6,130 25	6,306 16	-	97 6	3,373 32	13	43	427 4	1,431 5
Md.	375	348	-	8	276	5	7	37	596 1
Va.	419	431	-	-	345	1	10	57	507
W. Va. N.C.	580	503	-	9 14	498	- 6	23	176	19
S.C.	391	373	-	9 20	305 630	-	1	73	22 159
Fla.	2,927	2,955	-	26	1,046	-	15	4	21
E.S. CENTRAL	1,572 103	1,618 86	1	32 8	1,474 362	17	7 3	93 19	297 68
Tenn	435	444	-	Ğ	453	11	1	47	166
Ala. Miss.	407	485	-	11	278	5	2	5	-
W.S. CENTRAL	5,977 143	6,083 151	1	64 4	1,981 227	99 61	40	342 36	826 136
La.	1,246	1,392	-	13	266	3	3	1	21
Okla. Tex.	4,436	4,412	-	36	1,305	8	33	87	582
MOUNTAIN	474	578	1	13	438	22	10	12	180
Idaho	6	24	-	-	23	2	-	2	10
Wyo. Colo	10 118	15 162	- 1	2	10 56	4	1	2	11 18
N. Mex.	128	142	-	1	86	3	1	-	7
Utah	18	16	-	3	30	3	1	1	6
Nev.	68	95	-	-	18	1	1	1	29
PACIFIC Wash.	3,817 127	3,347 117	4	79 11	3,119 177	5 2	73 3	2	313
Oreg.	102	82	-	5	129	2	3	- 2	1 295
Alaska	10	3,059	-		42	-		-	15
Hawaii	51	80	-	10	174	-	2	-	-
Guam P.R.	648	1 500	U -	U 9	4 347	:	-	-	40
V.I. Pac. Trust Terr	16	25	ū		2	-	-	-	-
Fac. Irust lerf.	-	-	0	J	-	-	-	-	-

# TABLE III. (Cont.'d). Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending September 17, 1983 and September 18, 1982 (37th week)

U: Unavailable

# TABLE IV. Deaths in 121 U.S. cities,\* week ending September 17, 1983 (37th week)

		All Caus	es, By A	ge (Year	s)					All Cause	s, By Ag	ge (Years	)		
Reporting Area	All Ages	≥65	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	P&I** Totai	Reporting Area	All Ages	≥65	45-64	25-44	1-24	< 1	P&I** Total
NEW ENGLAND	693	464	146	47	19	17	48	S. ATLANTIC	1,195	733	267	94	41	57	38
Boston, Mass.	194	116	45	15	7	11	20	Atlanta, Ga.	140	82	34	10	6	8	4
Bridgeport, Conn.	64	40	18	4	2	-	4	Baltimore, Md.	180	105	47	16	3	9	5
Cambridge, Mass.	20	25	2	1	-	-	5	Charlotte, N.C.	63	40	16	3	2	2	2
Hartford Conn	62	40	14	5	1	2	-	Jacksonville, Fla. 9	152	/6	1	1	4	2	4
Lowell, Mass.	27	20	7		-	-	1	Norfolk Va	45	26	10	6	4	8	2
Lynn, Mass.	20	16	3	1	-	-	1	Richmond, Va	82	44	26	9	2	2	4
New Bedford, Mass	s. 10	8	1	1	-	-	-	Savannah, Ga.	26	14	- 9	ĭ	ĭ	1	
New Haven, Conn.	70	41	18	8	2	1	2	St. Petersburg, Fla	. 99	82	7	6	3	i	5
Providence, R.I.	5/	41	10	3	1	2	5	Tampa, Fla.	77	46	16	6	4	5	3
Springfield Mass	48	33	ä	2	2	-	Ē	Washington, D.C.	221	109	55	28	10	19	3
Waterbury Conn	32	21	9	1	1		2	willmington, Del.	22	12	8	1	1	-	1
Worcester, Mass	55	43	6	4	ż	-	3	E.S. CENTRAL	688	425	153	54	23	33	26
MID ATLANTIC	2,445	1,649	499	177	58	62	93	Birmingham, Ala. Chattanooga Ten	94 94	54 32	22	7	4	7	-
Albany, N.Y.	56	39	7	4	3	3		Knoxville, Tenn.	47	38	5	i	1		2
Allentown, Pa.	20	15	3	2	-	-	-	Louisville, Ky	111	51	34	14	8	4	7
Buffalo, N.Y.	125	95	20	6	2	2	11	Memphis, Tenn.	180	110	36	17	6	11	5
Campen, N.J.	42	20		6	-	3	1	Mobile, Ala.	50	36	10	2	1	1	3
Frie Pat	42	30	8	2	2	1	2	Montgomery, Ala	102	40	6	4	-	5	2
Jersev City, N.J.	55	36	11	6	-	2	1	Nashville, Tenn.	102	64	26	8	-	4	5
N.Y. City, N.Y.	1,403	925	290	113	38	37	43	W.S. CENTRAL	1 2 9 8	778	292	98	69	61	20
Newark, N.J.	49	25	17	6	-	1	3	Austin, Tex.	55	43	6	3	2	1	35
Paterson, N.J.	26	18	6	-	2	-	1	Baton Rouge, La.	47	26	12	8	ĩ		3
Philadelphia, Pa.†	198	125	48	15	5	5	8	Corpus Christi, Te	x 50	32	9	3	3	3	-
Pittsburgh, Pa.t	33	25	14	4	2	3	1	Dallas, Tex.	229	133	66	12	9	9	2
Rochester NY	112	85	23	2	1	1	á	El Paso, Tex.	100	33	17	3	5	2	4
Schenectady, N.Y.	29	22	6	-	i			Houston Tox	204	102	29	10	6	.4	6
Scranton, Pa.†	24	18	6	-	-	-	2	Little Rock Ark	65	43	16	24	1	1	57
Syracuse, N.Y.	67	48	13	2	2	2	1	New Orleans, La.	163	94	32	12	7	18	
Trenton, N.J.	39	34	4	1		-	3	San Antonio, Tex.	197	130	35	13	13	6	8
Viica, N.Y. Yonkers, N.Y.	21	11	4	-	1	1	4	Shreveport, La. Tulsa Okla	40	29 61	5	-	3	3	-
EN CENTRAL	2 254	1 403	562	147	71	70	50					U		3	3
Akron Ohio	74	57	14	147	12	1	58	MOUNTAIN	662	445	145	46	11	15	22
Canton, Ohio	41	29	11	1	-	- 1	Ā	Colo Springer Col	ex /5	53	15	2	3	2	1
Chicago, III	488	295	123	46	18	6	12	Denver Colo	109	76	23	4	1	1	6
Cincinnati, Ohio	135	92	36	3	1	3	10	Las Vegas, Nev.	93	47	28	17	1		2
Cleveland, Ohio	158	95	45	8	4	6	2	Ogden, Utah	21	18	1		i	1	-
Columbus, Uhio	135	74	34	11	6	10	2	Phoenix, Ariz	153	110	32	6	2	3	-
Dayton, Unio	287	148	34	25	17	10	1	Pueblo, Colo	19	16	3	-	-	-	1
Evansville, Ind	43	32	11			12	2	Salt Lake City, Uta	h 51	30		5	2	6	
Fort Wayne, Ind.	65	41	18	2	2	2	3	Tucson, Anz.	107	/1	29	5	1	1	11
Gary, Ind.	12	6	5	1	-	-	-	PACIFIC	2.082	1.388	418	145	61	69	119
Grand Rapids, Mich	. 66	45	12	3	2	4	1	Berkeley, Calif.	16	12	2	2			
Indianapolis, Ind.	163	94	42	12	4	11	1	Fresno, Calif	78	45	16	6	4	7	5
Madison, wis.	129	3/	11	1	2	-	4	Glendale, Calif.	46	29	12	1	4	-	1
Peoria III	61	40	12	3	2	3	2	Honolulu, Hawaii	57	38	11	3	2	3	5
Rockford, III	45	31	9	2	1	2	2	Long Beach, Calif.	53	31	1/		2	2	3
South Bend, Ind.	32	23	5	4		-	2	Oakland Calif	61	4/3	143	61	19	15	33
Toledo, Ohio	88	63	18	5	2	-	1	Pasadena Calif	38	30	10	' <b>*</b>	'		3
Youngstown, Ohio	60	36	15	5	4	-	1	Portland, Oreg	131	91	25	5	5	5	9
W.N. CENTRAL	826	550	180	37	25	30	35	Sacramento, Calif San Diego, Calif	80	45 114	22	5 14	37	5	5 10
Des Moines, Iowa	96	67	21	3	4	1	8	San Francisco, Ca	lif 195	133	39	14	4	5	4
Duluth, Minn.	32	25	6	1	÷	2	-	San Jose, Calif.	179	129	29	12	5	4	18
Kansas City, Kans.	31	14	11	Ē	4	2	-	Seattle, Wash	161	109	39	5	4	4	5
Lincoln Nebr	36	30	37	5	-	3	3	Spokane, Wash	54	39	7	5	1	2	5
Minneapolis Minn	103	63	26	6	5		4	Tacoma, Wash	48	30	12	4	-	2	-
Omaha, Nebr.	89	64	18	2	2	3	2	ΤΟΤΑΙ	12 1 4 2	tt a oor					
St. Louis, Mo.	172	112	36	10	6	8	4		12,143	1,835	2,663	845	377	414	477
St. Paul, Minn.	58	44	6	5	-	ž	2								
Wichita, Kans.	74	45	14	4	4	7	8	[							

\* 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. Figures are estimates based on average of past 4 weeks.

## Exposures to Airborne Lead - Continued

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- Fischbein A, Nicholson WJ, Weisman I. Comparative lead emissions from conventional and jacketed ammunition. Am Ind Hyg Assoc J 1980;41:525-7.

# Patient-Source Scabies among Hospital Personnel - Pennsylvania

In early January 1982, a 60-year-old woman with severe diabetes mellitus and multiple end-organ complications was admitted to a Pennsylvania hospital with bacterial sepsis and shock; she had previously been a custodial nursing home patient. The patient died 5 days after admission. During her hospitalization, she was comatose and required total nursing care, including repeated physical contact by the floor nursing and support staffs. On admission, the patient had an excoriated, crusted rash covering her entire body that had been present for many weeks; retrospectively, it was believed to be crusted or Norweigan scabies. No other patients requiring extensive care contact had dermatologic problems on this unit during the same period.

Approximately 3 weeks after the patient's death, unit staff members began to report to the employee-health service with itching and red, scaly, skin lesions primarily on the anterior trunk and volar side of the arms. Epidemiologic investigation revealed that all the ill individuals had had frequent, close contact with the deceased. Staff members at risk of physical contact were identified, and on examination, 10 had skin rashes clinically compatable with scabies. Some of these individuals had already been treated with a scabicide by their private physicians. All had onset of rash about 2 weeks after the death of the index patient; the remaining 20 at-risk individuals without rash had considerably fewer intense physical contacts with her. There were no cleaning or food service personnel or orderlies, transporters, or other nonnursing-care staff in either the skin-rash or at-risk groups.

All individuals with rash were examined. Four had been previously treated, and their lesions were resolving. Five had lesions suitable for scrapings to detect mites; three of these had positive scrapings.

All 10 individuals were treated with lindane lotion and noted prompt relief of symptoms and resolution of rash. Surveillance over the next 8 weeks identified one possibly late primary case with the same clinical features as the original 10 and one suspected secondary case

#### Scabies - Continued

with hand-dominant localization. Both patients were treated by private physicians, with immediate symptom resolution.

After a year of total follow-up, no additional cases were reported.

Reported by SJ Pancoast, MD, JJ Kishel, Mercy Hospital, Scranton, Pennsylvania; Div of Vector-Borne Viral Diseases, Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC.

Editorial Note: Each patient in this outbreak had a rash distribution that included mainly the anterior trunk, upper legs, and volar arms. Classic hand involvement was conspicuously absent. The predominance of trunk and arm distribution reflects the mode of probable acquisition (body contact acquired by lifting and positioning the index patient). All affected staff members had repeated, close body contact without protective outerwear, frequently with bare arms and forearms. The lack of hand involvement can be partly attributed to frequent post-patient handwashing.

In many custodial, close-confinement situations with disabled patients, scabies is an endemic problem. When skin-rash outbreaks are reported among hospital personnel, even with an atypical distribution of skin lesions as in this case, scabies should be considered. The usual mode of transmission in such instances may be predominantly body-to-body contact.

All persons admitted to patient-care institutions should be examined for skin lesions. Those positive for scabies should be managed as having an infectious disease and isolated until cured to prevent spread among staff and other patients. This includes the use of gloves and, if indicated, gowns, while actually in contact with suspected or positive cases.

# International Notes

# Post-Smallpox Eradication Surveillance

In conformity with the 1980 recommendations of the Thirty-third World Health Assembly for post-smallpox eradication surveillance, the World Health Organization (WHO) is continuing to coordinate and participate in the investigation of suspected smallpox cases throughout the world.

Since January 1979, 143 reports of suspected smallpox have been received from 58 countries—15 of them during the last 12 months. These reports were investigated by national health authorities or joint national/WHO teams, and when required, specimens were collected and tested by a WHO collaborating center for laboratory confirmation of diagnosis. Results of the investigation of 142 reports (one is still under investigation) showed that none was smallpox; they were actually misdiagnosed cases of chickenpox, measles, or diseases other than smallpox. These results further augment confidence in the absence of smallpox worldwide.

## NIGERIA

The results of investigation of an outbreak of fever and rash disease reported by the press as smallpox are presented below. This is one example of a smallpox report that received international attention and was clarified through the joint efforts of WHO and the government concerned.

On November 19, 1982, a Nigerian newspaper published an article describing an outbreak of suspected smallpox with more than 17 cases that occurred in Onitsha prison in Anambra

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#### MMWR

# Post-Smallpox Eradication - Continued

State. On November 23, the National WHO Program Coordinator in Lagos, Nigeria, brought this report to the attention of the national health authorities. By the middle of December 1982, the outbreak had already been investigated by a medical officer in Onitsha and a diagnosis of chickenpox made.

Meanwhile, the outbreak continued, and the report received international attention. In December, WHO was asked by scientists from the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States to clarify this report. At the request of the Smallpox Eradication Unit, WHO, the national health authorities further investigated the outbreak and collected specimens that were dispatched for testing at a WHO collaborating laboratory. The results of these investigations follow:

During January 23-26, 1983, a team from the Federal Epidemiological Division of the Ministry of Health headed by the Principal Health Superintendent with the participation of medical personnel of the Onitsha local government area visited the prison to investigate the outbreak, and confirmed the diagnosis of chickenpox.

The first cases occurred at the beginning of November, and by November 19, they totaled 20. From the outset, the outbreak was monitored by the Medical Officer of Health responsible for the Onitsha local government area. By November 30, there were 79 cases, and by December 14, 120 cases of chickenpox had been recorded. When the team from the Federal Epidemiological Division arrived at the end of January to carry out the investigation, the outbreak was still continuing, and four cases in the acute stage of the disease were noted.

Results of clinical examination showed that the distribution of rash, the stage of its development, the absence of lesions on the palms and soles, and other signs conformed with a diagnosis of chickenpox. Nevertheless, skin lesion specimens were taken from two of the patients, and some convalescent serum specimens were also collected from other persons. All these specimens were promptly sent to the WHO Collaborating Center for Poxvirus Diagnosis and Research at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Atlanta, Georgia, and the laboratory results were made available within a few days. The laboratory examination revealed herpes varicella particles in skin lesion specimens, thus confirming the clinical diagnosis of chickenpox. The results of the investigation were communicated to those persons in the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States who had requested WHO to clarify this report.

## INDIA

At the beginning of June 1983, a daily newspaper in Patna (Bihar, India) published a photograph of a young girl with facial skin lesions. The case was diagnosed as chickenpox by local physicians. However, the newspaper caption read, "Smallpox, the dreaded disease, which was supposedly eradicated from Asia, has struck again in Patna." The photograph and comments were later reprinted in newspapers in other Indian States, as well as abroad. The report created concern, and WHO was asked by the members of the media whether or not the report was correct.

The Union Ministry of Health (New Delhi) sent officials with smallpox experience from the National Institute of Communicable Disease (New Delhi) to carry out an independent "on-the-spot" investigation. The patient, a 12-year-old girl, was located and examined. She had a scar indicating a successful vaccination against smallpox. Clinical and epidemiologic examination confirmed the diagnosis of chickenpox. Further skin samples were collected and sent to the National Smallpox Reference Laboratory, Delhi, and to the WHO Collaborating Center at CDC. No viruses belonging to the orthopoxvirus group were identified by these laboratory examinations.

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The data in this report are provisional, based on weekly reports to CDC by state health departments. The reporting week concludes at close of business on Friday; compiled data on a national basis are officially released to the public on the succeeding Friday.

The editor welcomes accounts of interesting cases, outbreaks, environmental hazards, or other public health problems of current interest to health officials. Such reports and any other matters pertaining to editorial or other textual considerations should be addressed to: ATTN: Editor, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia 30333.

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