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## MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT

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### Current Trends

#### **Risks Associated with Human Parvovirus B19 Infection**

This report\* was developed to assist physicians, public health officials, and other health-care professionals respond to public concerns about recently recognized, serious complications of human parvovirus B19 (B19) infection, including transient aplastic crisis (TAC), chronic anemia, and fetal death. It includes background information about the virus, clinical manifestations, pathogenesis, epidemiology, and diagnostic testing. In addition, interim guidelines are presented for preventing B19 infection, managing persons exposed to persons with B19 infection, and managing patients infected with B19. These guidelines reflect both the current limited information about the extent to which B19 infection leads to severe complications and the limited availability of diagnostic testing. Priorities for future research are identified.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

B19 was discovered in England in 1975 in serum specimens from healthy blood donors (1). Since its discovery, B19 has been shown to be the causative agent of erythema infectiosum (EI) (also known as fifth disease) and is the primary etiologic agent of TAC in patients with chronic hemolytic anemias (2–4). B19 has also been associated with fetal death (both spontaneous abortions and stillbirths), acute arthralgias and arthritis, and chronic anemia in immunodeficient patients (5–14).

The virus belongs to the family *Parvoviridae*, which includes two genera of vertebrate viruses: genus parvovirus (autonomously replicating parvoviruses) and genus dependovirus (parvoviruses that require a helper virus, such as adenovirus or herpes virus, for replication); and one genus of invertebrate viruses, the genus densovirus (15). B19 is in the genus parvovirus, which includes a number of animal parvoviruses such as the canine parvovirus and feline panleukopenia virus. The parvoviruses tend to be species-specific; only the adeno-associated parvoviruses (members of the dependovirus genus) and B19 are known to infect humans. The

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adeno-associated parvoviruses have not been associated with disease in humans. Fecal parvoviruses and the RA1 virus have been reported but not confirmed to be human pathogens (16,17). B19 is a heat-stable virus and can survive at 60 C (140 F) for up to 12 hours.

## **CLINICAL FEATURES OF B19 INFECTION**

### **Erythema Infectiosum (Fifth Disease)**

The most commonly recognized illness associated with B19 infection is EI. EI is a mild childhood illness characterized by a facial rash ("slapped cheek" appearance), and a reticulated or lacelike rash on the trunk and extremities (18). Reappearance of the rash may occur for several weeks following nonspecific stimuli such as change in temperature, sunlight, and emotional stress. Typically, the patient is otherwise well at rash onset but often gives a history of mild systemic symptoms 1–4 days before rash onset. In some EI outbreaks, pruritis has been a common clinical feature. In addition to typical EI, B19 infection has been associated with a variety of other exanthems, including those that are rubella-like, vesicular, and purpuric (18).

### **Asymptomatic Infection**

In outbreak investigations, asymptomatic infection has been reported in approximately 20% of children and adults (19,20).

### **Arthropathy**

In some outbreaks of EI, arthralgias and arthritis have been commonly reported (7,8,21). Infection may produce a symmetrical peripheral polyarthropathy. Joints in the hands are most frequently affected, followed by the knees and wrists. Symptoms are usually self-limited but may persist for several months. Joint symptoms, more common in adults, may occur as the sole manifestation of infection.

### **Transient Aplastic Crisis and Severe Anemia**

B19 is the primary etiologic agent causing TAC in patients with chronic hemolytic anemias (e.g., sickle cell disease, hemoglobin SC disease, hereditary spherocytosis,  $\beta$ -thalassemia, and autoimmune hemolytic anemia) (22,23). It can also cause TAC in other conditions in which increased red cell production is necessary to maintain stable red cell indices, as may occur in anemia due to blood loss. Patients with TAC typically present with pallor, weakness, and lethargy and may report a nonspecific prodromal illness in the preceding 1–7 days. Few patients with TAC report a rash. In the acute phase of the illness, patients usually have a moderate to severe anemia with absence of reticulocytes, and bone marrow examination shows a hypoplastic or an aplastic erythroid series with a normal myeloid series. Recovery is indicated by a return of reticulocytes in the peripheral smear approximately 7–10 days after their disappearance. TAC may require transfusion and hospitalization and can be fatal if not treated promptly.

### **B19 Infection in Immunodeficient Patients**

A B19-related severe chronic anemia associated with red cell aplasia has been described in patients on maintenance chemotherapy for acute lymphocytic leukemia, patients with congenital immunodeficiencies, and patients with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-related immunodeficiency (9–14). It is not yet known how often B19 causes chronic anemia in immunodeficient patients or which patients are most susceptible to this complication of infection. Chronic B19 infection should, however,

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be included in the differential diagnosis of chronic anemia in the immunodeficient patient.

**Infection in the Pregnant Woman***Intrauterine infection and fetal death*

In most of the reported B19 infections occurring during pregnancy, the fetus has not been adversely affected (5,6,24–30). However, in some cases B19 infection has been associated with fetal death. The risk of fetal death attributable to parvovirus infection following documented maternal infection (B19 IgM-antibody-positive) is not known, but preliminary results of one study from the United Kingdom suggest that it is <10% (30; SM Hall, unpublished data). In that study, 174 pregnant women with IgM antibody to B19 were followed prospectively to delivery. Fetal loss occurred in 30 (17.2%): 21 (19.1%) of 110 women infected during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy, seven (15.2%) of 46 women infected during weeks 13–20, one (6.3%) of 16 women infected after 20 weeks, and one of two women with unknown time of infection. Fetal death most commonly occurred from the 10th through the 20th weeks of pregnancy. Not all fetal deaths directly resulted from B19 infection. Since this study did not include a control group, the number of deaths attributable to B19 infection cannot be calculated directly. In other studies, rates of recognized pregnancies ending in spontaneous abortions from all causes by 28 weeks' gestation range from 10% to 25% (31). In the British study, the number of fetal deaths linked to B19 infection can be estimated by determining whether fetal tissues contain B19 DNA. Tissues from 14 fetuses were tested for B19 DNA: six were positive, two were equivocal, and six were negative. The cause of death is likely to have been B19 infection for the DNA-positive fetuses; thus, at least six (3.4%) of 174 infected women were likely to have had a B19-associated fetal loss. When the results of the 14 tested were extrapolated to all 30 fetal deaths, an estimated 17 fetuses would be B19 DNA-positive or equivocal, suggesting that  $\leq 17$  ( $\leq 9.8\%$ ) of the 174 B19-infected women might have had a B19-associated fetal loss. Antibody studies of liveborn infants and hybridization studies of fetal tissues indicate that less than one third of maternal infections are associated with fetal infection in this study.

Results from an ongoing study in the United States also suggest that B19-attributable fetal deaths are infrequent (CDC, unpublished data). In this study, 95 pregnant women with IgM antibody to B19 are being followed prospectively. Fetal loss has so far occurred in two (4.1%) of 49 women followed to term. It is not known whether the two fetal deaths were caused by B19 infection. One fetus was hydropic; the other was not described. No tissues from either fetus were available for B19 hybridization studies.

When the antibody status of the woman is unknown, estimates of the risk of fetal death after exposure must take into account the rate of susceptibility in the population and the risk of infection after the exposure. For example, by taking these factors into account, the *upper limit* estimate of the risk of fetal death would be <2.5% after exposure to household members with documented infection (<0.1 risk of fetal death  $\times$  0.5 rate of susceptibility  $\times$  0.5 rate of infection  $\times$  100; see sections on Epidemiologic Features of B19 Infection: Prevalence and Transmission) and <1.5% after prolonged exposure at schools with widespread EI among students (<0.1 risk of fetal death  $\times$  0.5 rate of susceptibility  $\times$  0.3 rate of infection  $\times$  100). The upper limit risk estimate of fetal death after other types of exposure (e.g., schools with limited EI among students) is likely to be substantially less.

### *Parvovirus – Continued*

A study of 96 women who had stillbirths, 96 women who had spontaneous abortions, and controls matched by age, duration of pregnancy, and location suggests that B19 is not responsible for a substantial proportion of fetal deaths in the general population (32). In this study, the rate of serologically confirmed B19 infection was the same (1%) in cases and controls. In a survey of 50 fetuses with nonimmunologic hydrops fetalis, an uncommonly diagnosed cause of fetal death, four (8%) were positive for B19 DNA (25).

### *Congenital anomalies*

Since some of the animal parvoviruses are teratogens (33), the possibility that infection may also be associated with congenital anomalies in humans is a concern. However, there is no evidence that the rate of congenital anomalies following B19 infection exceeds background rates. B19-associated congenital anomalies have not been reported among several hundred liveborn infants of B19-infected mothers. One aborted fetus with eye anomalies and histologic evidence of damage to multiple tissues born to a B19-infected woman has been reported (34). An anencephalic fetus was reported in a B19-infected woman, but the timing of infection made it unlikely that B19 contributed to the defect (35).

## **PATHOGENESIS**

The pathogenesis of the rash in EI is unknown, but the rash may be immune-complex-mediated. The other, more serious manifestations of B19 infection are related to the propensity of the virus to infect and lyse erythroid precursor cells and interrupt normal red cell production (36). In a person with normal hematopoiesis, B19 infection produces a self-limited red cell aplasia that is clinically inapparent. Transient leukopenia, lymphocytopenia, and thrombocytopenia have also been reported with B19 infection in the normal host (37,38).

In patients who have increased rates of red cell destruction or loss and who depend on compensatory increases in red cell production to maintain stable red cell indices, B19 infection may lead to TAC. Patients at risk for TAC include those with chronic hemolytic anemias and those with anemias associated with acute or chronic blood loss. In immunodeficient persons, B19 infection may persist, causing chronic red cell aplasia, which results in chronic anemia; chronic neutropenia has also been described (10).

B19 DNA-positive tissues have been reported in 20 fetal deaths; in all 17 cases in which pathologic findings were described, the fetuses had nonimmunologic hydrops fetalis (6,25–27,30,35,39–44). The precise pathogenesis of fetal death remains unclear. Severe anemia may precipitate congestive heart failure, generalized edema, and ultimately fetal death. The fetus may be particularly vulnerable to B19 infection because red cell survival is short, and the red cell volume is rapidly expanding. Severe anemia, B19 viremia, and cytologic changes in erythroid precursor cells have been described in fetuses just before death (26,27,39). Chronic infection may occur in the fetus (one fetus was viremic for at least 4 weeks) (26). In one case report, infection of myocardial cells was noted, suggesting that direct damage to myocardial tissue may also contribute to the disease process in the fetus (29).

## **EPIDEMIOLOGIC FEATURES OF B19 INFECTION**

### **Prevalence**

B19 infection occurs worldwide (45,46). Infection with B19 can occur throughout

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the year, in all age groups, during outbreaks of EI, or as sporadic cases. B19 infection is most frequently recognized during outbreaks of EI in schools. These outbreaks often begin in late winter or early spring and may continue until school recesses for the summer. The level of EI activity in a community varies from year to year; periods of increased activity lasting several years are generally followed by several years of decreased activity (47–50). The reported seroprevalence ranges from 2% to 15% in children 1–5 years old, 15% to 60% in children 5–19 years old, and 30% to 60% in adults (18,40,51,52).

**Incubation Period**

Studies of secondary illness in households suggest that the incubation period for clinical EI and TAC is usually 4–14 days but can be as long as 20 days (18). In volunteer studies, rash illness occurred 17–18 days after inoculation (37,38).

**Transmission**

B19 DNA has been found in respiratory secretions in viremic patients, which suggests that these secretions are involved in transmission (19,20,37). In studies of human volunteers, serum and respiratory secretions became positive for B19 DNA 5–10 days after intranasal inoculation (during the prodromal illness) (37,38). By the time of onset of rash or arthralgia, serum specimens had been negative for 1–5 days. B19 has not been detected in the respiratory secretions and only rarely in the serum of patients after onset of EI (37). In contrast, acute serum specimens are often positive for B19 DNA in patients when they present with TAC; serum specimens are usually negative by 7 days after onset of illness (53). The presence of B19 DNA in serum or respiratory secretions presumably correlates with infectiousness; thus, patients with EI are probably past the period of greatest infectiousness, while patients with TAC are likely to be infectious during the course of their illness.

The presence of IgG antibody correlates with a lower risk of infection. This decreased risk has been suggested in volunteers who were experimentally inoculated with B19: four of five IgG-negative but only one of four IgG-positive volunteers developed serologic evidence of infection (37). The IgG-positive volunteer who became infected had low levels of IgG antibody before challenge and had a lower titer and shorter duration of viremia than had the four infected volunteers who were IgG-negative.

The virus is transmitted effectively after close contact exposures. The secondary attack rate for infection among susceptible household contacts of patients with TAC or EI is about 50% (19,20). In school outbreaks, 10%–60% of students may develop EI. In outbreaks in which student involvement is widespread, preliminary data suggest 20%–30% of susceptible (IgG-antibody-negative) staff may develop serologic evidence of B19 infection during the course of the outbreak (CDC, unpublished data).

In outbreak settings, it is not known whether the primary mode of transmission involves direct person-to-person contact, fomites, large-particle droplets, or small-particle droplets. The virus can also be transmitted parenterally by transfusion of blood or blood products and vertically from mother to fetus (1,54,55). Transmission rarely occurs during transfusion with single-donor blood products but is common during treatment with clotting-factor concentrates, even after steam- or dry-heat treatment of the clotting factor concentrate (1,54,55). Tattooing was suspected as the source of B19 transmission in two instances (56).

*Parvovirus – Continued***DIAGNOSIS****B19 Antibody Assays**

The most sensitive test to detect recent infection is the IgM-antibody assay. B19 IgM antibody can be detected by capture-antibody radioimmunoassay or enzyme immunoassay in approximately 90% of cases by the third day after symptoms of TAC or EI begin (57,58). The titer and the percentage of positives begin to decline 30–60 days after onset. B19 IgG antibody is usually present by the seventh day of illness and persists for years. B19 antibody may not be detectable in immunodeficient patients with chronic B19 infection, and additional testing for B19 DNA or viral antigens may be necessary to document infection.

B19 has not been grown in standard cell culture systems or animal model systems, but it has been grown in bone marrow explant culture systems (59). The inability to grow the virus in sufficient quantity to produce antigen for diagnostic assays has precluded widespread availability of B19 testing (36,60,61). Recently parvovirus B19 DNA has been incorporated into the genome of a Chinese hamster ovary cell line (62). This cell line expresses B19 capsid proteins as noninfectious virionlike particles that can be used as antigen for antibody assays; this source of antigen should lead to increased availability of diagnostic tests.

**Assays for B19 DNA**

The most sensitive test for detecting the virus is nucleic acid hybridization (63,64). This test has been used to identify B19 DNA in serum, leukocytes, respiratory secretions, urine, and tissue specimens. One group reported that B19 DNA was more likely to be detected in leukocytes than in serum (65).

**Histologic Features of B19 Infection**

Light and electron microscopy can be helpful in diagnosing B19 infections (1,23,41). By light microscopy, eosinophilic nuclear inclusions with peripheral condensation of chromatin can be seen in erythroid precursor cells of infected patients. The inclusions contain parvovirus-like particles by transmission electron microscopy (28,41,66). B19-like particles may also be seen by electron microscopy in serum specimens of some infected patients (1,23,41). Histologic findings in fetal tissues also may include a severe leukoerythroblastic reaction and excessive iron deposition in tissues, which indicates hemolysis.

**Assays to Determine Site of Infection**

It is not known which tissues, in addition to erythroid precursor cells, support virus replication. Several tests have been developed that distinguish virus infection of tissue or cells from deposition of virus by passive transfer in blood. In situ hybridization can demonstrate viral DNA in specific cells and has been used to show that B19 sometimes infects fetal myocardial cells (29). Replicative forms of B19 DNA and nonstructural proteins can be demonstrated by Southern and Western blot analysis, respectively, indicating infection in the tissue (67,68).

**PREVENTION OF INFECTION****Risk Groups**

Although B19 infection usually produces a mild, self-limited illness, three groups of persons are at risk for serious complications of infection: 1) persons with chronic hemolytic anemias, 2) persons with congenital or acquired immunodeficiencies, and

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3) pregnant women. Since infection in these persons can lead to substantial morbidity and some mortality, consideration should be given to preventing or ameliorating disease.

**Immunization***Active*

There is no vaccine to prevent B19, but a recently developed cell line that expresses B19 capsid proteins as noninfectious viruslike particles has been proposed as a source of antigen for development of a candidate vaccine (62).

*Passive*

No studies have been conducted to determine whether preexposure or postexposure prophylaxis with commercially available immune globulin (IG) preparations would prevent infection or modify the course of illness during community outbreaks. Routine prophylaxis with IG cannot be recommended at this time.

**Health-Care Settings**

Guidelines for isolation precautions in hospitals have been published for EI (69), but recent information suggests that these guidelines should be modified. Most patients with EI are past their period of infectiousness and do not present a risk for further transmission; thus isolation precautions are not indicated. However, there is risk for nosocomial transmission of B19 from patients with TAC and from immunodeficient patients with chronic B19 infection. These patients should be considered infectious and placed on isolation precautions for the duration of their illness or until the infection has been cleared. Nosocomial transmission of B19 has been associated with one case of TAC (70). Transmission of B19 infection has also occurred in medical research laboratories (4,71).

Patients with TAC or chronic B19 infection should be admitted to private rooms. Persons in close contact with the patients should wear masks. Gloves should be worn by persons likely to touch infective material such as respiratory secretions, and gowns should be worn when soiling is anticipated (contact isolation) (69). Hands should be washed after the patient or potentially contaminated articles are touched and before care is provided to another patient. B19-infected patients may share a room with another B19-infected patient unless sharing is contraindicated by another infection or condition.

Health-care workers should be advised that they are at risk of B19 infection after exposure in the hospital or in the community and that there may be a risk for further transmission to patients. Routine infection-control practices should minimize the risk of transmission.

Personnel who may be pregnant or who might become pregnant should know about potential risks to the fetus from B19 infection and about preventive measures that may reduce those risks.

**Homes, Schools, and Workplaces**

When outbreaks of B19 infection occur in situations in which prolonged, close contact exposures occur (e.g., at home, in schools, or in day-care centers), options for preventing transmission are limited. The greatest risk of transmitting the virus occurs before symptoms of EI develop; therefore, transmission cannot be prevented by identifying and excluding persons with EI. The efficacy of decontaminating toys and environmental surfaces to decrease B19 transmission has not been studied. The

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efficacy of handwashing to decrease B19 transmission has not been studied either, but handwashing is recommended as a practical and probably effective measure.

When outbreaks occur, parents of school-aged children and employees should be advised about the risk of transmitting and acquiring infection and about who is at risk for serious complications. Persons who wish to obtain additional information about risks and management of B19 exposures should be referred to their health-care provider and state or local health officials.

The decision to try to decrease any person's risk of infection by avoiding a workplace or school environment in which an EI outbreak is occurring should be made by the person after discussions with family members, health-care providers, public health officials, and employers or school officials. A policy to routinely exclude members of high-risk groups is not recommended.

*(Continued on page 93)***TABLE I. Summary – cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States**

Disease	6th Week Ending			Cumulative, 6th Week Ending		
	Feb. 11, 1989	Feb. 13, 1988	Median 1984-1988	Feb. 11, 1989	Feb. 13, 1988	Median 1984-1988
Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)	291	U*	212	3,203	3,366	1,377
Aseptic meningitis	98	74	76	430	453	498
Encephalitis: Primary (arthropod-borne & unspec)	15	12	16	52	85	90
Post-infectious	-	2	2	6	8	8
Gonorrhea: Civilian	10,704	13,522	14,925	69,804	81,541	94,663
Military	298	365	254	1,258	1,466	1,910
Hepatitis: Type A	706	494	494	3,381	2,435	2,435
Type B	391	377	457	1,945	1,936	2,498
Non A, Non B	42	41	62	223	230	327
Unspecified	69	52	89	253	221	440
Legionellosis	26	26	12	83	94	83
Leprosy	5	-	2	12	8	25
Malaria	34	8	8	112	53	67
Measles: Total†	13	52	43	146	158	158
Indigenous	8	50	43	126	146	131
Imported	5	2	2	20	12	24
Meningococcal infections	70	78	71	281	383	337
Mumps	98	90	69	533	480	370
Pertussis	52	28	47	212	134	173
Rubella (German measles)	4	5	5	19	24	25
Syphilis (Primary & Secondary): Civilian	652	726	614	3,989	4,025	3,263
Military	10	1	6	35	20	23
Toxic Shock syndrome	3	4	7	24	29	35
Tuberculosis	186	363	363	1,681	1,711	1,733
Tularemia	-	-	1	6	15	10
Typhoid Fever	11	9	7	35	39	28
Typhus fever, tick-borne (RMSF)	10	1	1	18	7	7
Rabies, animal	56	50	71	355	288	419

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

	Cum. 1989		Cum. 1989
Anthrax	-	Leptospirosis (Hawaii 3)	15
Botulism: Foodborne	-	Plague	-
Infant	1	Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	-
Other	1	Psittacosis (Va. 1, Ariz. 1, Calif. 1)	10
Brucellosis	1	Rabies, human	-
Cholera	-	Tetanus	6
Congenital rubella syndrome	-	Trichinosis	1
Congenital syphilis, ages <1 year	-		
Diphtheria	-		

\*Because AIDS cases are not received weekly from all reporting areas, comparison of weekly figures may be misleading.

†Four of the 13 reported cases for this week were imported from a foreign country or can be directly traceable to a known internationally imported case within two generations.

**TABLE III. Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending February 11, 1989 and February 13, 1988 (6th Week)**

Reporting Area	AIDS	Aseptic Meningitis	Encephalitis		Gonorrhea (Civilian)		Hepatitis (Viral), by type				Legionellosis	Leprosy
			Primary	Post-infectious	Gonorrhea (Civilian)		A	B	NA,NB	Unspecified		
					Cum. 1989	Cum. 1988						
UNITED STATES	3,203	430	52	6	69,804	81,541	3,381	1,945	223	253	83	12
NEW ENGLAND	162	22	1	-	2,285	2,351	83	140	22	10	6	2
Maine	12	1	-	-	35	46	2	8	3	-	-	-
N.H.	3	1	-	-	22	44	18	13	5	1	-	-
Vt.	2	-	-	-	9	20	2	3	2	-	-	-
Mass.	71	10	-	-	950	771	35	93	9	8	5	2
R.I.	10	5	-	-	179	182	1	19	2	1	1	-
Conn.	64	5	1	-	1,090	1,288	25	4	1	-	-	-
MID. ATLANTIC	791	52	1	-	6,457	11,906	574	338	20	29	27	1
Upstate N.Y.	134	18	1	-	1,410	1,643	145	73	8	2	9	-
N.Y. City	340	9	-	-	1,450	4,900	20	71	2	17	1	-
N.J.	247	-	-	-	1,323	1,648	91	84	5	5	-	-
Pa.	70	25	-	-	2,274	3,715	318	110	5	5	17	1
E.N. CENTRAL	382	57	21	-	12,878	13,206	153	194	14	4	20	-
Ohio	43	18	7	-	3,513	3,036	61	77	4	-	13	-
Ind.	114	10	5	-	782	1,230	8	24	-	1	1	-
Ill.	145	1	-	-	4,144	3,546	20	5	-	-	-	-
Mich.	68	27	7	-	3,940	4,347	54	69	9	3	4	-
Wis.	12	1	2	-	499	1,047	10	19	1	-	2	-
W.N. CENTRAL	84	21	-	-	3,214	3,097	79	47	6	2	2	-
Minn.	-	3	-	-	332	429	8	12	-	2	-	-
Iowa	12	6	-	-	278	273	8	6	3	-	-	-
Mo.	61	6	-	-	2,002	1,713	36	20	1	-	-	-
N. Dak.	1	1	-	-	8	29	-	2	-	-	-	-
S. Dak.	2	-	-	-	28	63	-	2	2	-	-	-
Nebr.	1	2	-	-	257	173	8	-	-	-	2	-
Kans.	7	3	-	-	309	417	19	5	-	-	-	-
S. ATLANTIC	576	97	7	2	20,984	21,672	260	392	31	34	10	-
Del.	23	5	-	-	314	326	8	17	-	-	-	-
Md.	126	13	1	-	1,410	1,928	68	90	6	10	4	-
D.C.	57	-	-	-	1,390	1,325	-	-	-	-	-	-
Va.	30	27	3	-	2,016	1,822	12	44	8	17	1	-
W. Va.	1	2	2	-	181	212	5	4	-	-	-	-
N.C.	1	13	-	1	3,273	2,960	66	117	13	-	4	-
S.C.	37	3	-	-	2,267	1,412	5	41	-	2	-	-
Ga.	101	5	-	-	3,832	4,358	51	30	1	2	1	-
Fla.	200	29	1	1	6,301	7,329	45	49	3	3	-	-
E.S. CENTRAL	47	41	4	-	6,197	6,235	39	176	24	1	5	-
Ky.	10	11	1	-	562	577	14	46	8	-	1	-
Tenn.	-	8	-	-	2,079	1,853	9	87	6	-	2	-
Ala.	26	21	3	-	1,770	2,364	12	42	10	1	2	-
Miss.	11	1	-	-	1,786	1,441	4	1	-	-	-	-
W.S. CENTRAL	299	20	4	-	8,266	10,330	228	75	13	40	5	-
Ark.	10	3	-	-	835	768	15	4	1	-	-	-
La.	35	3	1	-	1,300	2,955	10	8	-	-	-	-
Okla.	-	6	3	-	825	783	61	20	5	4	5	-
Tex.	254	8	-	-	5,306	5,824	142	43	7	36	-	-
MOUNTAIN	114	18	2	-	1,457	1,701	624	128	24	33	2	-
Mont.	-	-	-	-	27	43	5	11	-	-	-	-
Idaho	1	-	-	-	27	39	27	11	-	-	-	-
Wyo.	3	-	-	-	15	22	5	1	-	-	-	-
Colo.	36	4	1	-	188	456	87	18	4	17	-	-
N. Mex.	-	3	-	-	128	177	65	27	5	1	-	-
Ariz.	35	7	-	-	555	542	324	36	4	12	2	-
Utah	9	3	1	-	68	83	44	8	6	3	-	-
Nev.	30	1	-	-	449	339	67	16	5	-	-	-
PACIFIC	748	102	12	4	8,066	11,043	1,341	455	69	100	6	9
Wash.	62	-	-	-	472	854	180	43	7	2	-	-
Oreg.	26	-	-	-	357	382	212	38	9	-	-	-
Calif.	659	98	10	4	7,049	9,523	774	365	52	96	6	9
Alaska	-	-	2	-	147	145	151	8	1	2	-	-
Hawaii	1	4	-	-	41	139	24	1	-	-	-	-
Guam	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-
P.R.	188	10	-	-	87	191	4	10	-	2	-	-
V.I.	15	-	-	-	39	42	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amer. Samoa	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
C.N.M.I.	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-

N: Not notifiable

U: Unavailable

C.N.M.I.: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**TABLE III. (Cont'd.) Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending February 11, 1989 and February 13, 1988 (6th Week)**

Reporting Area	Malaria		Measles (Rubeola)				Menin- gococcal Infections	Mumps		Pertussis			Rubella			
	Cum. 1989	1989	Indigenous		Imported*	Total		Cum. 1989	1989	Cum. 1989	1989	Cum. 1989	Cum. 1988	1989	Cum. 1989	Cum. 1988
			1989	Cum. 1989	1989											
UNITED STATES	112	8	126	5	20	158	281	98	533	52	212	134	4	19	24	
NEW ENGLAND	10	-	-	-	-	1	25	1	3	-	11	15	-	-	-	
Maine	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	
N.H.	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	3	-	5	11	-	-	-	
Vt.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mass.	8	-	-	-	-	1	12	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
R.I.	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	
Conn.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	
MID. ATLANTIC	15	1	4	3	12	30	23	7	20	3	21	8	-	1	-	
Upstate N.Y.	6	-	-	-	-	-	12	1	1	2	6	3	-	1	-	
N.Y. City	6	1	3	3†	11	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
N.J.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	11	1	14	1	-	-	-	
Pa.	3	-	1	-	-	26	7	2	8	-	1	4	-	-	-	
E.N. CENTRAL	8	-	44	-	2	1	33	5	38	-	8	12	-	-	10	
Ohio	3	-	44	-	1	-	22	-	8	-	1	2	-	-	-	
Ind.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	
Ill.	2	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	10	
Mich.	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	24	-	3	5	-	-	-	
Wis.	2	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	
W.N. CENTRAL	1	-	10	-	-	-	8	46	151	2	5	16	-	-	-	
Minn.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Iowa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	2	5	4	-	-	-	
Mo.	1	-	10	-	-	-	1	3	25	-	2	2	-	-	-	
N. Dak.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	
S. Dak.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	
Nebr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Kans.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	42	122	-	-	1	-	-	-	
S. ATLANTIC	26	7	9	-	1	4	56	7	79	-	3	19	-	-	-	
Del.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Md.	7	2	4	-	1	2	10	4	50	-	1	-	-	-	-	
D.C.	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Va.	4	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	17	-	1	2	-	-	-	
W. Va.	1	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
N.C.	9	5	5	-	-	1	12	-	2	-	1	12	-	-	-	
S.C.	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ga.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	
Fla.	2	-	-	-	-	1	14	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	
E.S. CENTRAL	2	-	1	-	-	-	14	-	25	3	7	4	-	-	-	
Ky.	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	2	3	-	-	-	
Ala.	2	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	3	3	5	-	-	-	-	
Miss.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	N	-	-	1	-	-	-	
W.S. CENTRAL	-	-	-	-	2	-	18	19	149	-	3	-	-	1	-	
Ark.	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	8	29	-	1	-	-	-	-	
La.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	31	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Okla.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	44	-	2	-	-	-	-	
Tex.	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	7	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MOUNTAIN	8	-	13	1	2	72	9	5	16	41	118	25	-	1	1	
Mont.	-	-	12	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Idaho	2	-	-	1†	1	-	-	-	2	-	6	21	-	-	-	
Wyo.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Colo.	-	-	-	-	-	72	4	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	
N. Mex.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	N	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Ariz.	1	-	1	-	-	-	5	5	10	39	107	1	-	-	-	
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	
Nev.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	
PACIFIC	42	-	45	1	1	50	95	8	52	3	36	35	4	16	13	
Wash.	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	3	8	1	2	3	-	-	-	
Oreg.	2	-	-	-	-	-	7	N	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Calif.	39	-	45	-	-	49	81	4	41	2	34	21	4	16	12	
Alaska	-	-	-	1‡	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	10	-	-	1	
Guam	-	U	-	U	-	-	-	U	-	U	-	-	U	-	-	
P.R.	-	5	19	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
V.I.	-	U	-	U	-	-	-	U	2	U	-	-	U	-	-	
Amer. Samoa	-	U	-	U	-	-	-	U	-	U	-	-	U	-	-	
C.N.M.I.	-	U	-	U	-	-	-	U	-	U	-	-	U	-	-	

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

N: Not notifiable U: Unavailable †International ‡Out-of-state

**TABLE III. (Cont'd.) Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending February 11, 1989 and February 13, 1988 (6th Week)**

Reporting Area	Syphilis (Civilian) (Primary & Secondary)		Toxic- shock Syndrome	Tuberculosis		Tula- remia	Typhoid Fever	Typhus Fever (Tick-borne) (RMSF)	Rabies, Animal
	Cum. 1989	Cum. 1988		Cum. 1989	Cum. 1988				
UNITED STATES	3,989	4,025	24	1,681	1,711	6	35	18	355
NEW ENGLAND	229	115	1	45	23	-	9	-	-
Maine	-	2	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
N.H.	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Vt.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Mass.	73	44	-	13	12	-	4	-	-
R.I.	31	3	-	9	1	-	4	-	-
Conn.	125	65	-	17	8	-	1	-	-
MID. ATLANTIC	621	846	3	341	434	1	4	2	67
Upstate N.Y.	56	63	-	12	59	-	-	-	-
N.Y. City	374	582	1	246	228	-	3	-	-
N.J.	166	84	-	36	78	-	-	-	-
Pa.	25	117	2	47	69	1	1	2	67
E.N. CENTRAL	159	96	4	225	239	-	1	1	7
Ohio	7	5	4	53	50	-	-	1	-
Ind.	5	14	-	6	16	-	-	-	-
Ill.	78	46	-	87	95	-	-	-	2
Mich.	66	27	-	70	69	-	1	-	1
Wis.	3	4	-	9	9	-	-	-	4
W.N. CENTRAL	38	17	3	54	43	1	2	1	38
Minn.	2	2	1	10	12	-	-	-	13
Iowa	9	2	1	8	4	-	2	1	-
Mo.	18	7	-	15	18	1	-	-	2
N. Dak.	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	5
S. Dak.	-	-	1	6	8	-	-	-	12
Nebr.	9	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	3
Kans.	-	3	-	11	-	-	-	-	3
S. ATLANTIC	1,502	1,398	4	322	378	-	1	10	105
Del.	12	19	-	-	3	-	-	-	1
Md.	60	66	-	27	31	-	-	1	18
D.C.	112	65	-	22	12	-	-	-	-
Va.	75	46	-	37	47	-	-	-	30
W. Va.	3	1	-	10	9	-	-	-	9
N.C.	83	86	4	29	26	-	1	9	-
S.C.	88	59	-	48	44	-	-	-	23
Ga.	335	225	-	38	38	-	-	-	24
Fla.	734	831	-	111	168	-	-	-	-
E.S. CENTRAL	265	205	-	119	132	1	-	2	19
Ky.	5	3	-	49	40	1	-	2	7
Tenn.	85	51	-	16	18	-	-	-	4
Ala.	107	83	-	53	52	-	-	-	8
Miss.	68	68	-	1	22	-	-	-	-
W.S. CENTRAL	564	456	-	129	118	1	2	1	61
Ark.	49	7	-	15	7	-	-	-	4
La.	103	74	-	7	19	-	1	-	-
Okl.	6	20	-	1	22	1	-	1	8
Tex.	406	355	-	106	70	-	1	-	49
MOUNTAIN	82	72	3	49	32	-	-	1	12
Mont.	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Idaho	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Wyo.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Colo.	4	15	-	-	11	-	-	1	-
N. Mex.	1	7	1	8	11	-	-	-	1
Ariz.	26	12	1	34	8	-	-	-	2
Utah	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nev.	46	32	-	6	2	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC	529	820	6	397	312	2	16	-	46
Wash.	4	22	-	14	16	-	-	-	-
Oreg.	30	31	-	11	14	-	-	-	-
Calif.	491	763	6	350	261	2	16	-	26
Alaska	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	20
Hawaii	4	4	-	17	18	-	-	-	-
Guam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
P.R.	40	85	-	6	21	-	-	-	3
V.I.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amer. Samoa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
C.N.M.I.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

U: Unavailable

**TABLE IV. Deaths in 121 U.S. cities,\* week ending February 11, 1989 (6th Week)**

Reporting Area	All Causes, By Age (Years)						P&I**	Reporting Area	All Causes, By Age (Years)						P&I**
	All Ages	≥65	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1			Total	All Ages	≥65	45-64	25-44	1-24	
NEW ENGLAND	725	500	134	59	15	17	60	S. ATLANTIC	1,560	934	342	174	61	48	83
Boston, Mass.	197	116	39	26	6	10	18	Atlanta, Ga.	201	112	48	28	9	4	5
Bridgeport, Conn.‡	42	32	6	3	1	-	2	Baltimore, Md.	331	190	71	44	14	12	20
Cambridge, Mass.	26	20	5	1	-	-	1	Charlotte, N.C.	91	53	25	5	2	6	5
Fall River, Mass.	26	14	10	2	-	-	-	Jacksonville, Fla.	145	97	30	14	3	1	10
Hartford, Conn.	75	51	14	3	2	5	3	Miami, Fla.	186	95	38	29	13	11	2
Lowell, Mass.	37	29	5	3	-	-	1	Norfolk, Va.	63	31	16	7	4	5	4
Lynn, Mass.	17	12	4	1	-	-	-	Richmond, Va.	81	48	20	8	2	3	15
New Bedford, Mass.	22	21	1	-	-	-	2	Savannah, Ga.	115	85	26	3	-	1	11
New Haven, Conn.	54	37	7	7	3	-	6	St. Petersburg, Fla.	59	49	6	1	1	1	4
Providence, R.I.	57	41	9	5	2	-	8	Tampa, Fla.	73	46	16	6	3	2	3
Somerville, Mass.	5	3	1	1	-	-	2	Washington, D.C.	199	115	43	29	10	2	3
Springfield, Mass.	51	35	13	2	-	1	3	Wilmington, Del.	16	13	3	-	-	-	1
Waterbury, Conn.	49	37	9	2	-	1	9	E.S. CENTRAL	806	523	174	45	36	28	49
Worcester, Mass.	67	52	11	3	1	-	5	Birmingham, Ala.	147	89	37	6	6	9	2
MID. ATLANTIC	2,875	1,927	549	279	61	58	176	Chattanooga, Tenn.	53	40	10	2	-	1	3
Albany, N.Y.	42	32	6	1	1	2	2	Knoxville, Tenn.	92	60	17	4	10	1	4
Allentown, Pa.	28	22	4	2	-	-	-	Louisville, Ky.	81	48	19	5	5	4	6
Buffalo, N.Y.	150	120	19	7	2	2	16	Memphis, Tenn.	197	135	39	14	5	4	23
Camden, N.J.	41	28	8	2	3	-	-	Mobile, Ala.	43	29	8	-	4	2	4
Elizabeth, N.J.	21	19	1	1	-	-	1	Montgomery, Ala.	44	30	8	2	3	1	1
Erie, Pa.†	37	26	6	2	2	1	3	Nashville, Tenn.	149	92	36	12	3	6	6
Jersey City, N.J.‡	67	46	13	7	-	1	3	W.S. CENTRAL	1,782	1,139	398	155	53	36	91
N.Y. City, N.Y.	1,611	1,017	319	202	38	35	78	Austin, Tex.	51	32	15	2	-	2	5
Newark, N.J.	61	32	14	7	3	5	10	Baton Rouge, La.	29	24	4	1	-	-	-
Paterson, N.J.‡	31	22	4	4	1	-	1	Corpus Christi, Tex.‡	48	37	10	1	-	-	1
Philadelphia, Pa.	297	190	66	25	7	8	22	Dallas, Tex.	227	137	54	25	6	5	11
Pittsburgh, Pa.†	63	41	17	4	-	1	1	El Paso, Tex.	81	47	22	3	7	2	7
Reading, Pa.	46	39	6	1	-	-	9	Fort Worth, Tex.	93	63	19	2	9	-	3
Rochester, N.Y.	132	97	29	4	1	1	16	Houston, Tex.‡	734	436	169	89	24	16	18
Schenectady, N.Y.	32	27	2	3	-	-	1	Little Rock, Ark.	81	48	21	7	2	3	5
Scranton, Pa.†	26	22	4	-	-	-	2	New Orleans, La.	95	65	21	5	2	2	-
Syracuse, N.Y.	90	75	10	1	2	2	4	San Antonio, Tex.	165	114	38	9	1	2	18
Trenton, N.J.	38	25	8	4	1	-	3	Shreveport, La.	68	51	10	3	2	2	10
Utica, N.Y.	21	16	5	-	-	-	2	Tulsa, Okla.	110	85	15	8	-	2	13
Yonkers, N.Y.	41	31	8	2	-	-	2	MOUNTAIN	779	519	154	57	24	25	48
E.N. CENTRAL	2,401	1,598	502	167	63	71	147	Albuquerque, N. Mex.	65	46	10	7	2	-	4
Akron, Ohio	76	54	14	3	2	3	-	Colo. Springs, Colo.	53	36	12	1	1	3	6
Canton, Ohio	45	35	9	1	-	-	2	Denver, Colo.	125	88	21	11	3	2	6
Chicago, Ill.‡	564	362	125	45	10	22	16	Las Vegas, Nev.	134	87	34	9	-	4	7
Cincinnati, Ohio	148	103	29	10	4	2	31	Ogden, Utah	25	20	3	-	1	1	2
Cleveland, Ohio	130	78	28	14	6	4	3	Phoenix, Ariz.	186	114	40	13	9	10	8
Columbus, Ohio	173	96	52	16	5	4	2	Pueblo, Colo.	25	20	4	-	1	-	6
Dayton, Ohio	136	90	28	8	5	5	13	Salt Lake City, Utah	46	24	10	6	3	3	-
Detroit, Mich.	232	137	49	26	8	12	12	Tucson, Ariz.	120	84	20	10	4	2	9
Evansville, Ind.	50	38	11	1	-	-	3	PACIFIC	2,186	1,487	366	213	61	52	192
Fort Wayne, Ind.	52	34	12	2	2	2	8	Berkeley, Calif.	21	12	5	3	-	1	-
Gary, Ind.‡	73	15	6	2	-	-	-	Fresno, Calif.	85	52	17	10	3	3	11
Grand Rapids, Mich.	22	55	10	4	2	1	6	Glendale, Calif.	33	24	8	1	-	-	3
Indianapolis, Ind.	172	113	31	13	5	10	6	Honolulu, Hawaii	86	50	20	7	2	7	10
Madison, Wis.	31	19	8	1	2	1	3	Long Beach, Calif.	157	111	21	9	10	5	28
Milwaukee, Wis.	142	110	24	7	1	-	8	Los Angeles Calif.	548	374	90	63	12	3	41
Peoria, Ill.	56	45	7	-	4	3	8	Oakland, Calif.‡	87	60	16	7	2	2	6
Rockford, Ill.	56	45	8	1	1	1	3	Pasadena, Calif.	39	32	2	3	-	-	3
South Bend, Ind.	42	26	8	6	2	-	5	Portland, Oreg.	109	74	17	10	3	5	3
Toledo, Ohio	131	92	29	4	6	-	20	Sacramento, Calif.	178	126	28	19	4	1	24
Youngstown, Ohio‡	70	51	14	3	2	-	4	San Diego, Calif.	177	117	35	14	6	5	10
W.N. CENTRAL	841	603	151	43	18	26	42	San Francisco, Calif.	186	119	28	29	4	6	15
Des Moines, Iowa	75	40	19	10	2	4	6	San Jose, Calif.	211	147	37	16	8	3	4
Duluth, Minn.	26	23	2	1	-	-	3	Seattle, Wash.‡	148	105	24	11	3	5	4
Kansas City, Kans.	27	18	5	2	1	1	1	Spokane, Wash.	72	51	10	6	2	3	7
Kansas City, Mo.	120	80	25	4	6	5	6	Tacoma, Wash.	49	33	8	5	2	1	3
Lincoln, Nebr.	39	33	5	1	-	-	8	TOTAL	13,955††	9,230	2,770	1,192	392	361	888
Minneapolis, Minn.	216	148	48	8	4	8	12								
Omaha, Nebr.	84	66	13	2	1	2	4								
St. Louis, Mo.	159	125	19	11	1	3	1								
St. Paul, Minn.	61	45	8	2	3	3	1								
Wichita, Kans.‡	34	25	7	2	-	-	-								

\*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 3 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 available 4 weeks.

*Parvovirus – Continued*

## **PATIENT MANAGEMENT**

### **Patients with Chronic Hemolytic Anemia**

The exposed patient with chronic hemolytic anemia should be managed by alerting the patient or his/her parents or guardians about the exposure, the symptoms and signs associated with TAC (pallor, weakness, and lethargy), and the need to consult a physician immediately if symptoms or signs of TAC develop. Management of the patient with TAC is based on treating symptoms of the associated anemia and may require blood transfusion.

### **Patients with Congenital and Acquired Immunodeficiencies**

The exposed patient with a congenital or acquired immunodeficiency should be managed by advising the patient or his/her parents or guardians about the exposure and the possibility that B19 infection may lead to chronic anemia. The physician should consider B19 infection in the differential diagnosis of chronic anemia in this group of patients, especially if there is an outbreak of EI in the community.

In several patients with acute lymphocytic leukemia, the administration of IG resulted in disappearance of viremia and improvement in red cell indices (10). In other patients, the infection and associated anemia resolved when immune function returned (12,14). The role of IG in the treatment of these patients needs further study.

### **Pregnant Women**

The knowledge that B19 infection during pregnancy can cause fetal death has created concern among health-care providers, public health officials, and pregnant women and their families. In managing exposed pregnant women, risks should be considered in the context of other risks to the pregnancy and the risks associated with intervention.

For women with a documented infection, maternal serum  $\alpha$ -fetoprotein levels and diagnostic ultrasound examinations have been used to identify adversely affected fetuses, but the sensitivity and specificity of these tests, their appropriate timing, and the risks and benefits of their use in managing infected pregnant women have not yet been determined (39,41). Interpretation of the ultrasound is difficult early in pregnancy and should be supervised by a physician experienced in diagnosing fetal abnormalities. Intrauterine blood transfusion (IBT) has been proposed as treatment for the fetus with B19-induced severe anemia. However, IBT is a high-risk, specialized procedure of unproven benefit in this situation and cannot be recommended for routine treatment of B19-related hydrops fetalis (72).

## **AVAILABILITY OF DIAGNOSTIC TESTING AT CDC**

Diagnostic testing is available at only a few sites, primarily research laboratories; increasing the availability of diagnostic testing is a public health priority. The Division of Viral Diseases, Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC, can accept a limited number of specimens for B19 diagnostic testing. At this time, CDC is accepting specimens through state health departments from patients with TAC, immunodeficient patients with chronic anemia, pregnant women exposed to B19 or with symptoms suggestive of B19 infection, and cases of nonimmune fetal hydrops possibly related to B19 infection, and not accepting specimens for routine antibody testing. Physicians can arrange testing at CDC by consulting their state health department.

*Parvovirus – Continued***PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE RESEARCH**

The following areas have been identified as high priorities for future public health-related research on B19 infection:

1. Develop surveillance methods that distinguish outbreaks from sporadic disease.
2. Refine estimates of infection rates following exposures in the home, the workplace, and school.
3. Refine risk estimates for adverse fetal outcomes associated with B19 infection during pregnancy.
4. Evaluate methods to treat and prevent B19-related fetal hydrops.
5. Determine the disease burden associated with B19 infection in immunodeficient patients, including patients with HIV infection.
6. Determine the risk of infection and factors associated with transmission in health-care settings.
7. Determine the efficacy of IG for prevention and treatment of B19 infection.
8. Determine the potential reduction in morbidity and mortality associated with development and use of a B19 vaccine.

*Reported by: Div of Reproductive Health, Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion; Div of Immunization, Center for Prevention Svcs; Div of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Center for Environmental Health and Injury Control; Div of Surveillance and Epidemiologic Studies, Epidemiology Program Office; National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; AIDS Program, Hospital Infections Program, Div of Host Factors, Div of Viral Diseases, Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC.*

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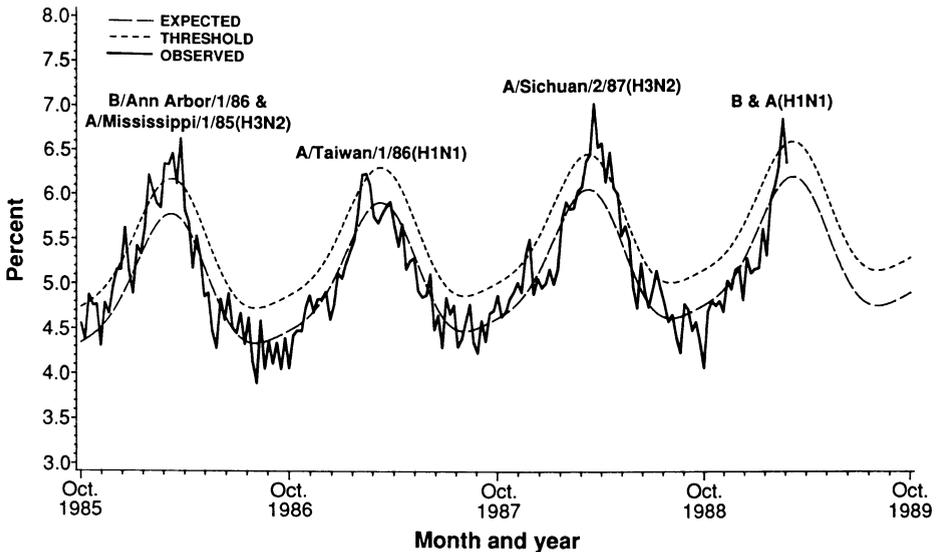
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## Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality – United States, 1988–89 Season

The proportion of deaths associated with pneumonia and influenza (P&I) reported from 121 U.S. cities has now exceeded the epidemic threshold for 3 successive weeks (from the week ending January 28 through the week ending February 11). Seventy-eight percent of the P&I deaths reported have occurred in persons  $\geq 65$  years of age.

*Reported by: Epidemiology Office and Influenza Br, Div of Viral Diseases, Center for Infectious Diseases; Div of Surveillance and Epidemiologic Studies, Epidemiology Program Office, CDC.*

**FIGURE 1. Pneumonia and influenza (P&I) deaths as a percentage of total deaths\* – United States, October 1982 – February 11, 1989**

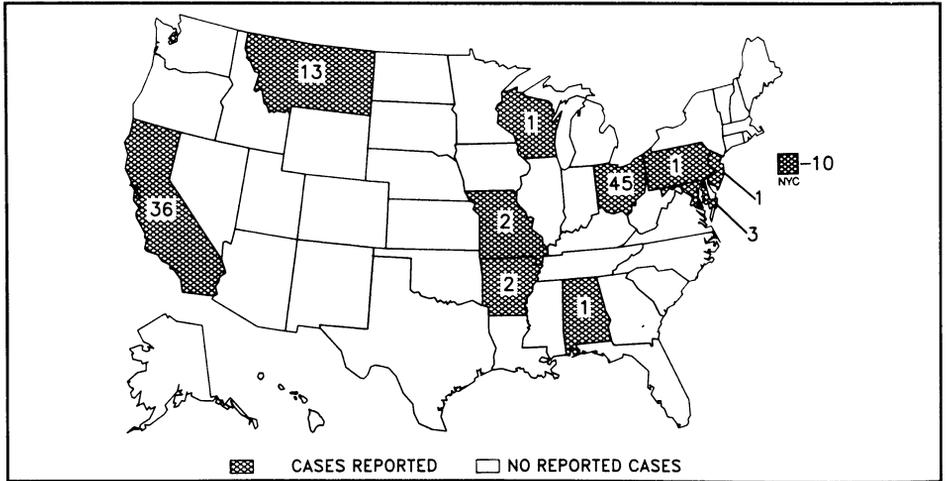


\*Reported to CDC from 121 U.S. cities. P&I deaths include all deaths for which pneumonia is listed as a primary or underlying cause or for which influenza is listed on the death certificate. The predominant virus strain is shown above the peak of mortality for each epidemic season. The epidemic threshold for the 1988–89 influenza season was estimated at 1.645 standard deviations above the values projected on the basis of a periodic regression model applied to observed P&I deaths for the previous 5-year period but excluding the observations during influenza outbreaks.

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**FIGURE I. Reported measles cases – United States, Weeks 2–5, 1989**



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