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Progress in Chronic Disease Prevention

Factors Related to Cholesterol Screening and Cholesterol Level Awareness – United States, 1989

Since November 1985, when the National Cholesterol Education Program (NCEP) was initiated by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, cholesterol screening and awareness of cholesterol levels have increased substantially in the United States (1,2). However, cholesterol screening and awareness patterns vary by state (2). To assess whether these variations may be related to demographic differences between states, data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) for 1989 were analyzed. Differences in cholesterol screening and awareness in relation to cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk factors other than elevated cholesterol level were also evaluated.

Health departments in the 39 participating states and the District of Columbia use a standardized questionnaire when conducting monthly random-digit–dialed telephone surveys of persons \geq 18 years of age (3). In 1989, respondents were asked whether they had ever had their cholesterol "checked." If so, they were asked to provide the duration since their last test and whether they had been told their cholesterol level. Persons who reported being told their cholesterol level were asked to state their level; those who reported a number from 100 mg/dL through 450 mg/dL were considered to know their cholesterol level.

The state-specific survey results were weighted according to the age, sex, and race distribution of adults in each state. Combined data were also weighted according to the population size in each state and are therefore representative of the total population in the participating states. To allow comparisons between states and within demographic categories, state-specific and combined results were standard-ized by age, sex, race, and educational attainment using 1980 U.S. census data. SESUDAAN, a computer software program for analyzing complex sample survey data, was used to calculate standard errors for the prevalence estimates (4).

The overall percentage of adults who reported ever having had their cholesterol level checked ranged from 48% in Alabama and New Mexico to 64% in Connecticut, Florida, and Washington (Table 1). The percentage of adults who reported knowing

Cholesterol - Continued

		Res c	pondents h holesterol l	aving h evel ch	ad their ecked	Res	Respondents knowing their cholesterol level					
	Sampla	0	verall	Stand	lardized [†]	0	verall	Stand	lardized [†]			
State	size	(%)	95% Cl⁵	(%)	95% Cl	(%)	95% CI	(%)	95% Cl			
Alabama	1788	(48)	±3	(47)	±3	(16)	±2	(16)	±2			
Arizona	1409	(58)	±3	(54)	±3	(26)	±3	(23)	±3			
California	1980	(63)	±2	(56)	±3	(27)	±2	(22)	±2			
Connecticut	1315	(64)	±3	(61)	±3	(28)	±3	(24)	±3			
District of												
Columbia	1434	(50)	±3	(44)	±6	(12)	±2	(11)	±3			
Florida	1647	(64)	±3	(56)	±3	(25)	±2	(19)	±2			
Georgia	1591	(52)	±3	(51)	±3	(16)	±2	(16)	±2			
Hawaii	750	(53)	±4	(53)	±4	(22)	±3	(22)	±4			
Idaho	1702	(55)	±3	(54)	±3	(22)	±2	(19)	±2			
Illinois	1714	(57)	±3	(54)	±3	(23)	±2	(21)	±2			
Indiana	2141	(51)	±2	(49)	±2	(19)	±2	(17)	±2			
lowa	1271	(58)	±3	(54)	±3	(28)	±3	(25)	±2			
Kentucky	1782	(53)	±3	(52)	±2	(21)	±2	(20)	±2			
Maine	1241	(59)	±3	(57)	±3	(26)	±3	(23)	±3			
Maryland	1653	(63)	±3	(60)	±3	(20)	±2	(18)	±2			
Massachusetts	1191	(61)	±3	(57)	±3	(28)	±3	(24)	±3			
Michigan	2300	(60)	±2	(58)	±2	(27)	±2	(25)	±2			
Minnesota	3350	(61)	±2	(59)	±2	(29)	±2	(25)	±2			
Missouri	1471	(50)	±3	(47)	±3	(21)	±2	(19)	±2			
Montana	1145	(55)	±3	(52)	±3	(25)	±3	(22)	±3			
Nebraska	1414	(53)	±3	(50)	±3	(25)	±2	(22)	±2			
New Hampshire	1343	(58)	±3	(56)	±3	(27)	±3	(24)	±3			
New Mexico	1116	(48)	±3	(45)	±3	(19)	±3	(15)	±2			
New York	1248	(56)	±3	(53)	±3	(22)	±3	(19)	±2			
North Carolina	1719	(54)	±3	(54)	±2	(22)	±2	(22)	±2			
North Dakota	1591	(56)	±3	(52)	±3	(28)	±2	(26)	±2			
Ohio	1407	(53)	±3	(51)	±3	(22)	±2	(19)	±2			
Oklahoma	1128	(54)	±3	(49)	±3	(21)	±3	(18)	±2			
Oregon	1635	(63)	±3	(60)	±3	(30)	±2	(24)	±2			
Pennsvlvania	1793	(59)	±3	(55)	±2	(25)	±2	(22)	±2			
Rhode Island	1752	(61)	±3	(57)	±3	(27)	±2	(23)	±2			
South Carolina	1839	(53)	±3	(54)	±3	(18)	±2	(19)	±2			
South Dakota	1726	(53)	±3	(50)	±3	(24)	±2	(21)	±2			
Tennessee	2368	(55)	±2	(53)	±2	(19)	±2	(18)	±2			
Texas	1431	(56)	±3	(54)	±3	(21)	±2	(18)	±2			
Utah	1740	(52)	+3	(52)	+3	(21)	±2	(20)	+2			
Virginia	1381	(58)	+3	(54)	+3	(21)	±2	(19)	+2			
Washington	1452	(64)	+3	(60)	+3	(33)	±3	(28)	 ±3			
West Virginia	1704	(50)	 ±3	(50)	+2	(18)	±2	(17)	+2			
Wisconsin	1251	(57)	±3	(54)	(54) ±3		±3	(27) ±3				
Median			56%	!	54%		23%	21%				
Kange		48	%64%	449	%61%	129	%–33%	119	%–28%			

TABLE 1. Cholesterol screening and awareness of cholesterol levels, by state* – Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 1989

*For the BRFSS, the District of Columbia is considered a state.

[†]Standardized for age, sex, race, and educational attainment using 1980 U.S. census data. [§]Confidence interval.

Cholesterol – Continued

their cholesterol level ranged from 12% in the District of Columbia to 33% in Washington. After standardization of the state-specific estimates for age, sex, race, and educational attainment using 1980 census data, cholesterol screening and awareness still varied between states.

Cholesterol screening and awareness were slightly higher among women than among men (Table 2). Younger persons (18–34 years of age), blacks, and persons with lower educational attainment (\leq 12 years of education) were less likely to have had their cholesterol level checked and were less likely to report knowing their cholesterol level. Differences by race declined after standardization for age, sex, and educational attainment. However, differences by sex, age, and educational attainment remained unchanged or increased when standardized by the other demographic factors.

Persons with diabetes, hypertension, or obesity were more likely to have had their cholesterol level checked and were more likely to know their cholesterol level than were persons who did not report having these risk factors for CVD (Table 3). However, cholesterol screening and awareness were lower among persons who reported having a sedentary lifestyle and among persons who reported smoking than among

		Resp ch	ondents h olesterol l	aving ha	ad their cked	Respondents knowing their cholesterol level					
	Comula	0	verall	Standa	ardized [†]	Ov	erall	Standardized ⁺			
Category	sample	(%)	95% CI ^s	(%)	95% CI	(%)	95% CI	(%)	95% CI		
Sex											
Male [¶]	26,519	(56)	±1	(52)	±1	(23)	±1	(19)	±1		
Female	37,394	(59)**	±1	(55)**	±1	(24)	±1	(21)	±1		
Age (yrs)											
18–34 [¶]	22,091	(37)	±1	(33)	±1	(12)	±1	(9)	±1		
35–49	17,736	(61)**	±1	(55)**	±1	(27)**	±1	(23)**	±1		
50–64	11,519	(75)**	±1	(73)**	±1	(35)**	±1	(33)**	±1		
≥65	12,567	(77)**	±1	(78)**	±1	(31)**	±1	(31)**	±1		
Race											
White [®]	57,998	(58)	±1	(54)	±1	(25)	±1	(21)	±1		
Black	5,915	(50)**	±2	(50)**	±2	(9)**	±1	(8)**	±1		
Education (yrs) ^{††}											
<12	10,921	(53)**	±1	(44)**	±2	(14)**	±1	(12)**	±1		
12	21,736	(53)**	±1	(53)**	±1	(21)**	±1	(21)**	±1		
>12"	31,099	(62)	±1	(64)	±1	(29)	±1	(29)	±1		

TABLE 2	. Cholesterol screening and awareness of cholesterol levels, by demographic
category	 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 1989*

*Based on data from 39 states and the District of Columbia.

[†]Standardized for other demographic variables using 1980 U.S. census data. For example, age _is adjusted for sex, race, and educational attainment.

[§]Confidence interval.

[¶]Referent group.

**Differs significantly from the referent group (p<0.05, z-test).

^{††}Level unknown for 157 BRFSS respondents.

Cholesterol - Continued

persons who did not report having these CVD risk factors. Differences were less marked after standardization for age, sex, race, and educational attainment but remained statistically significant (p<0.05, z-test).

Reported by: the following state BRFSS coordinators: L Eldrige, Alabama; J Contreras, Arizona; W Wright, California; M Adams, Connecticut; A Peruga, District of Columbia; S Hoecherl, Florida; J Smith, Georgia; A Villafuerte, Hawaii; J Mitten, Idaho; B Steiner, Illinois; S Joseph, Indiana; S Schoon, Iowa; K Bramblett, Kentucky; J Sheridan, Maine; A Weinstein, Maryland; L Koumjian, Massachusetts; J Thrush, Michigan; N Salem, Minnesota; J Jackson-Thompson, Missouri; M McFarland, Montana; S Spanke, Nebraska; K Zaso, L Powers, New Hampshire; L Pendley, New Mexico; J Marin, O Munshi, New York; C Washington, North Carolina; M Maetzold, North Dakota; E Capwell, Ohio; N Hann, Oklahoma; J Grant-Worley, Oregon; C Becker, Pennsylvania; R Cabrel, Rhode Island; M Mace, South Carolina; S Moritz, South Dakota; D Riding, Tennessee; J Fellows, Texas; L Post-Nilson, Utah; J Bowie, Virginia; K Tollestrup, Washington; D Porter, West Virginia; M Soref, Wisconsin. Behavioral Surveillance Br, Office of Surveillance and Analysis and Div of Chronic Disease Control and Community Intervention, Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, CDC.

Editorial Note: BRFSS data for 1989 indicate that cholesterol screening and awareness of cholesterol levels continue to increase in the United States. Among states participating in the BRFSS, the median proportion of adults who reported having had their cholesterol tested increased from 47% in 1987 to 56% in 1989. Similarly, the median proportion of adults who reported knowing their cholesterol level increased from 6% in 1987 to 21% in 1989.

		Resp ch	ondents h olesterol	aving ha	Respondents knowing their cholesterol level					
	0	Ov	verall	Standa	ardized [†]	Ov	verall	Standardized [†]		
Risk factor	size ^s	(%)	95% CI*	(%)	95% CI	(%)	95% CI	(%)	95% CI	
Diabetes	3,223	(77)**	±2	(64)**	±3	(28)**	* ±2	(22)	±2	
No diabetes	58,960	(56)	±1	(53)	±1	(23)	±1	(20)	±1	
Hypertension ^{††}	11,923	(78)**	±1	(66)**	±2	(33)**	* ±1	(27)**	±2	
No hypertension	51,773	(53)	±1	(51)	±1	(21)	±1	(19)	±1	
Overweight⁵⁵	13,471	(64)**	±1	(58)**	±1	(26)**	* ±1	(23)**	±1	
Not overweight	47,637	(56)	±1	(53)	±1	(23)	±1	(20)	±1	
Sedentary ^{¶¶}	37.832	(54)**	±1	(51)**	±1	(20)**	* ±1	(18)**	±1	
Not sedentary	26,004	(62)	±1	(59)	±1	(28)	±1	(24)	±1	
Smoking***	15,510	(49)**	±1	(49)**	±1	(16)**	* ±1	(16)**	±1	
Not smoking	48,267	(60)	±1	(55)	±1	(26)	±1	(22)	±1	

TABLE 3. Awareness of cholesterol levels in relation to other cardiovascular disease risk factors – Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 1989*

*Based on data from 39 states and the District of Columbia.

[†]Standardized for age, sex, race, and educational attainment using 1980 U.S. census data.

[§]Risk factor information unknown for some BRFSS respondents.

[¶]Confidence interval.

**Differs significantly from persons who did not report having the risk factor (p<0.05, z-test).
 ^{††}Persons who reported one or more of the following: 1) being told they had hypertension on two or more occasions, 2) having an antihypertensive medication currently prescribed, or 3) having high blood pressure at the time of the survey.

^{§§}Body mass index (weight [kg] + height $[m^2]$) ≥27.8 for men and ≥27.3 for women.

[¶]Persons who reported leisure-time physical activity fewer than three times per week and/or <20 minutes per session.

***Current cigarette smoker.

Cholesterol - Continued

In this analysis, cholesterol screening and awareness were strongly associated with age, race, and educational attainment, and variations by state persisted after adjustment for demographic differences between states. Thus, other factors were likely to be associated with variations by state, including differences in 1) time of implementation and intensity of cholesterol education and screening programs and 2) availability and quality of clinical preventive services.

NCEP goals are for all adults to 1) have their cholesterol level measured at least once every 5 years, 2) know their cholesterol level, and 3) take steps to lower their cholesterol level if it is elevated (5). The lower level of cholesterol testing and awareness among the youngest age group (18–34 years of age) is of particular concern: considerable evidence suggests that atherosclerosis is present by early adulthood (6-8) and that early atherosclerotic lesions may be related to elevated cholesterol levels during childhood and adolescence (9). Through identification and treatment of high blood cholesterol in early adulthood, younger persons may be able to prevent or delay the development of atherosclerosis. Increased identification and treatment of high blood cholesterol among blacks and persons in low socioeconomic groups is also important.

Multiple CVD risk factors increase the risk for CVD-related morbidity and mortality. For example, hypertensive smokers have a three to six times greater risk for CVD-related mortality than do normotensive nonsmokers (5). Additionally, a given reduction in blood cholesterol may produce a greater reduction in risk for CVD among persons with multiple CVD risk factors than among persons without these risk factors (5). Therefore, persons with risk factors for CVD should have their cholesterol level tested. These persons can substantially reduce their risk for CVD by working with their health-care provider to reduce an elevated cholesterol level and other CVD risk factors. Since cholesterol screening and awareness were lower among smokers and those with a sedentary lifestyle, special efforts are needed to reach these high-risk populations. In an effort to increase federal, state, and local activities supporting cholesterol awareness, September 1990 has been designated National Cholesterol Education Month by the NCEP Coordinating Committee.

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International Notes

Tuberculin Reactions in Apparently Healthy HIV-Seropositive and HIV-Seronegative Women – Uganda

Persons latently infected with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* are at substantially increased risk for developing clinically apparent tuberculosis (TB) if they become infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) (1,2). Although skin testing with purified protein derivative (PPD) by the Mantoux method is a standard method of screening for tuberculous infection, this method may be hampered by nonreactivity to skin tests of persons who become immunosuppressed because of progressive HIV infection. In Uganda, a continuing study of HIV infection in postpartum women, conducted by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with Case Western Reserve University, provided an opportunity to study the tuberculin reactivity of apparently healthy women of known HIV serologic status. This report presents data from the Uganda study.

In 1988–89, approximately 95% of 2000 pregnant women presenting to Mulago Hospital in Kampala for uncomplicated delivery volunteered to participate in a prospective study of HIV infection. Serum specimens obtained from these participants were tested for HIV antibody by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) using Recombigen-HIV EIA Kits* (Cambridge BioScience, Worcester, Massachusetts). All seropositive women and a random sample of seronegative women were then enrolled in the study.

During the postpartum period, women were tuberculin tested by the Mantoux technique using Old Tuberculin (OT) 1:2000 (equivalent to 5 tuberculin units [TU] of PPD) with Tuberculin "GT"* (Behringwerke AG, Marburg, Federal Republic of Germany) (this preparation is used by the Tuberculosis Control Program of Uganda). All tuberculin tests were applied and read by the same trained technician who did not know the HIV status of participants. All reactions were measured at 48 hours with a millimeter rule and recorded as the mean of two perpendicularly intersecting diameters of induration. Results were available for analysis for 94 women (33 HIV-seronegative and 61 HIV-seropositive), all of whom appeared healthy and had no signs or symptoms attributable to HIV infection or opportunistic infection.

Of the 33 HIV-seronegative women, 27 (82%) had tuberculin skin test reaction sizes \geq 3 mm (the diameter the Ministry of Health selected as a cutpoint), and the median reaction size for this group was 10.6 mm (Figure 1). Of the 61 HIV-seropositive women, 29 (48%) had reactions \geq 3 mm, and the median reaction size was 7.5 mm (p<0.05 for frequency of reactions \geq 3 mm, chi-square test; p<0.01 for difference in medians, Mann-Whitney U test) (Figure 1).

All but one patient were examined for a BCG (Bacillus of Calmette and Guérin) vaccination scar. Of 32 HIV-seronegative women, 18 (56%) had a BCG scar; of the 61 HIV-seropositive women, 28 (46%) had a BCG scar. For both HIV-seronegative and HIV-seropositive women, tuberculin nonreactivity was more likely among those without a BCG scar. Among the HIV-seronegative women, two (11%) of 18 with a BCG scar had no detectable tuberculin reaction, compared with four (29%) of 14 without a BCG scar (p=0.17, Fisher's exact test). Among the HIV-seropositive women, seven

^{*}Use of trade names is for identification only and does not imply endorsement by the Public Health Service or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Tuberculin Reactions - Continued

(25%) of 28 with a BCG scar had no reaction to tuberculin, compared with 25 (76%) of 33 without a BCG scar (p = 0.05, Fisher's exact test). However, for HIV-seropositive women with and without BCG scars, the relative risk for tuberculin nonreactivity was similar (2.3 and 2.6, respectively).

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Editorial Note: The interaction between HIV and the tubercle bacillus has dramatically affected the incidence of TB throughout the world. The recent interruption in the decline of TB cases in the United States is attributed in large part to the occurrence of TB among persons also infected with HIV (3). In some countries in central Africa, where more than half the adult population is infected with the tubercle bacillus, the HIV epidemic has been associated with sharp increases in TB morbidity (4). Based on the frequency of HIV and tuberculous coinfection in Uganda, an estimated excess of 250,000 TB cases could occur in that country during the next 5 years (5). An important intervention to control HIV-associated TB is the administration of isoniazid preventive therapy to coinfected persons. However, the occurrence of HIV-induced anergy to tuberculin hampers both the diagnosis of tuberculous infection and the identification of coinfected persons.

The number of women tested in the Uganda study was relatively small, and data to evaluate comparability between HIV-seropositive and HIV-seronegative women regarding other characteristics (e.g., age) were not available. However, the findings

(Continued on page 645)



FIGURE 1. Tuberculin reactions in apparently healthy HIV-seronegative and HIVseropositive women, by diameter of induration – Kampala, Uganda, 1988–89





*Ratio of current 4-week total to mean of 15 4-week totals (from comparable, previous, and subsequent 4-week periods for past 5 years).

TABLE I. Summary – cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, cumulative, week ending September 15, 1990 (37th Week)

	Cum. 1990		Cum. 1990
AIDS Anthrax Botulism: Foodborne Infant Other Brucellosis Cholera Congenital rubella syndrome Diphtheria Encephalitis, post-infectious Gonorrhea: civilian military Leptospirosis Measles: imported indicenous	29,252 9 46 5 4 3 2 72 470,416 6,329 149 34 1,035 20 008	Plague Poliomyelitis, Paralytic* Politacosis Rabies, human Syphilis: civilian military Syphilis, congenital, age < 1 year Tetanus Toxic shock syndrome Trichinosis Tuberculosis Tubaremia Typhoid fever Typhus fever, tickborne (RMSF)	1 82 1 33,663 174 685 38 227 16,424 96 315 453

*Three cases of suspected poliomyelitis have been reported in 1990; five of 13 suspected cases in 1989 were confirmed and all were vaccine-associated.

		Aseptic Menin- gitis	Encephalitis		0		н	epatitis (Г		
Reporting Area	AIDS		Primary	Post-in- fectious	Gond (Civ	ilian)	A	В	NA,NB	Unspeci- fied	Legionel- losis	Leprosy
	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1989	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990
UNITED STATES	29,252	5,797	563	72	470,416	489,943	20,318	14,286	1,562	1,177	868	149
NEW ENGLAND	1,096	240	19	-	13,175	14,157	428	756	52	49	39	10
Maine	43	8	3	-	142	182	7	24	4	1	5	-
N.H. Vt	48	24	-	-	119	119	5	35	4	3	4	-
Mass.	637	83	8	-	5.561	5.510	295	476	30	43	18	9
R.I.	56	74	1	-	814	1,021	45	32	-	2	7	ĩ
Conn.	299	29	5	-	6,497	7,281	69	152	10	-	-	-
MID. ATLANTIC	8,681	546	35	6	62,561	72,368	2,896	1,927	166	82	280	18
Upstate N.Y.	1,071	293	29	1	9,772	10,861	799	520	51	20	104	1
N.Y. City	4,975	113	3	2	25,967	29,656	435	520	23	43	74	12
N.J. Pa	1,735	140	2	2	10,404	10,868	1 332	423	33	19	44 58	4
		140			10,410	20,000	1,000			15	50	
E.N. CENTRAL	2,068	1,185	144	12	89,346	88,628	1,580	1,662	133	73	208	2
Ind.	177	169	44		7 959	6 386	112	293	9	15	32	
III.	844	181	45	2	28,414	28,436	765	328	32	15	15	1
Mich.	368	524	46	-	21,080	22,871	284	473	26	32	62	1
Wis.	174	49	5	-	5,418	7,570	270	271	13	-	32	•
W.N. CENTRAL	690	297	48	2	24,619	22,062	1,196	664	99	28	41	1
Minn.	133	38	17	1	3,092	2,498	172	86	21	-	1	•
lowa	25	47	5	-	1,801	1,963	228	47	8	4	4	-
NIDak	396	141	/	1	14,/68	13,525	361	410	46	20	24	-
S. Dak.	2	5	2		169	185	176	7	3		-	-
Nebr.	43	23	7	-	1,296	930	71	26	4	-	7	1
Kans.	89	31	10	-	3,417	2,854	174	83	15	3	5	-
S. ATLANTIC	5,974	1,184	129	20	134.724	132,376	2,411	2,705	230	175	133	5
Del.	72	29	3	-	2,166	2,266	92	71	6	2	8	-
Md.	642	150	17	1	15,649	15,459	811	378	36	9	53	3
D.C.	513	2	-	-	9,498	8,287	12	28	4	-	-	-
W.Va.	542	200	29		830	1 026	16	61	32	120	3	-
N.C.	406	140	29	-	20,346	19,984	529	770	87	-	20	1
S.C.	258	15	1	-	10,738	12,243	31	439	14	8	15	-
Ga.	770	218	4	1	29,570	25,459	281	306	8	.7	14	•
Fla.	2,721	392	10	17	33,207	36,502	429	482	39	17	9	1
E.S. CENTRAL	755	471	46	2	40,817	38,579	275	1,121	130	5	48	-
Ky.	136	112	19	-	4,294	3,740	68	391	39	3	19	-
Δla	237	190	20	2	12,225	12,015	128	125	/5	1	16	-
Miss.	215	84			10.076	9.728	1	4	2	1	-	-
WS CENTRAL	2 1 4 4	544	21	7	E0 20E	51 411	2 1 2 2	1 5 1 0	65	100	40	20
Ark.	168	11	1	<i>'</i> .	6 252	5,998	382	59	7	16	40	30
La.	476	69	6	-	9,039	10,852	138	227	4	7	13	
Okla.	158	52	3	6	4,420	4,410	402	113	19	23	13	-
Tex.	2,342	412	21	1	30,594	30,151	1,200	1,111	35	153	7	30
MOUNTAIN	801	262	19	2	9,426	10,219	3,291	1,081	153	89	32	-
Mont.	9	4	-	-	127	138	98	52	6	4	3	
Idaho	19	7	-	-	102	136	76	62	8	-	3	-
Colo.	250	58	4		2 150	2 174	208	118	34	31	5	
N. Mex.	68	12			905	970	667	147	9	7	3	
Ariz.	264	132	7	-	3,848	4,109	1,560	382	60	32	10	
Utah	75	25	3	-	300	327	390	82	21	5	3	-
INEV.	114	23	4	2	1,879	2,294	244	225	10	9	5	-
PACIFIC	6,043	1,068	92	21	45,443	60,143	6,119	2,860	534	477	47	83
vvasn. Oreg	436	-	6	1	3,773	4,709	1,024	416	91	27	11	5
Calif.	230	904	70	19	1,811	2,240	035 4 240	296	41 200	7		-
Alaska	23	96	6	-	739	659	148	2,004	500	430	35	CO -
Hawaii	94	68	ĩ	1	352	383	63	50	9	5	1	13
Guam	2	2			162	120	11	2	-	10		
P.R.	1,222	45	6	-	460	794	116	212	5	22	-	-
V.I.	10	-	-	-	292	491	1	9	-	-	-	-
Amer. Samoa	-	1	-	-	49	36	26	-	-	-	-	10
C.N.M.I.	-	-	-	-	148	72	10	9	-	15	-	4

TABLE II. Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending September 15, 1990, and September 16, 1989 (37th Week)

N: Not notifiable

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			Meas	les (Ru	beola)		Menin-	Mumma					Duballa			
Reporting Area	Malaria	Indig	enous	impo	orted*	Total	gococcal Infections	Mu	mps		Pertussi	5		Rubella		
	Cum. 1990	1990	Cum. 1990	1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1989	Cum. 1990	1990	Cum. 1990	1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1989	1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1989	
UNITED STATES	824	742	20,008	40	1,035	12,237	1,809	64	4,004	90	2,532	2,459	1	797	299	
NEW ENGLAND	71	1	256	-	25	322	136	-	36	17	294	280	-	9	6	
Maine	1	-	27	-	2	1	12	-	-	-	10	16	-	2	-	
Vt.	6	-	-		1	3	10	-	8	-	40	5	-		4	
Mass.	36	1	19	-	7	49	62	-	11	15	219	227	-	2	1	
Conn.	17	-	183	-	4	213	30	-	11	1	16	15	-	3	-	
MID. ATLANTIC	175	-	1,116	-	154	927	266	2	253	1	410	134	-	11	29	
Upstate N.Y. N Y City	33	-	200	-	110	140	100	1	106	-	283	45	-	10	12	
N.J.	56	•	228	-	14	430	60	-	62	-	21	26	-		2	
Pa.	23	-	366	•	9	261	67	1	85	1	106	58	-	1	-	
E.N. CENTRAL Ohio	49 7	4	3,225 549	-	143	4,091	243	2	427	1	489	351	•	31	25	
Ind.	2	4	323	•	ĭ	78	25	2	18	-	90	19	-	-	-	
III. Mich.	21 15	:	1,262 348	:	10 125	2,458 317	64 58	:	150 128	-	99 65	116	-	18	20 1	
Wis.	4	-	743	-	4	224	21	-	42		81	136	-	3	1	
W.N. CENTRAL	15	48	853	-	13	647	58	5	129	9	142	175	-	22	6	
lowa	4	42	392 25	:	3	17	11	1	14 18	:	31 17	46	-	17	1	
Mo.	8	-	96	-	-	368	23	i	53	5	72	105	-	-	4	
S. Dak.			15	-	- 8	-	1	2		:	2	2	-	1	-	
Nebr.	÷	-	97	-	1	113	5	-	4	1	7	5	-	-	:	
	160	10	220	-	-	140	15	3	40	3	12	3	-	-	1	
Del.	3	- 19	886	39	354	566 39	324	40	1,665 4	8	225 5	226 1	-	18	9	
Md.	47	2	195	•	18	81	38	7	929	1	54	37	-	2	2	
Va.	42	9	82	-	2	40	40	5	32 95	2	14 17	- 28	-	1	2	
W.Va. N.C	2 13		6	•	- 15	51	13	-	40	1	17	24	-	-	-	
S.C.	-	-	4		- 15	3	48 23	25	280	4	62 5	40	-	-	-	
Ga. Fla.	15 36	1	82 485	38§ 16	239	2	56	-	82	•	24	31	-		-	
E.S. CENTRAL	18	16	177		, v 2	229	110		104	-	2/	00	-	14	2	
Ky.	2	6	40	-	1	40	33		•	10	130	1/0	-	5	-	
Ala.	9	7	88 23	:	- 2	139	46	1	49	7	59	104	-	4	2	
Miss.	-	-	26	-		-	23	-	24	-	7	90	-	-	-	
W.S. CENTRAL	45	1	4,004	-	88	3,134	127	6	609	14	112	245	-	66	36	
La.	23	-	12	:	28	15 11	16 29		133	5	13	21	-	3	-	
Okla.	9	1	175	-	-	106	16	2	107	5	42	46	-	1	1	
	31		3,807	-	60	3,002	66	4	267	-	31	163	-	62	30	
Mont.	1	4	811		99	38/	56 10	3	310 1	5	226 29	522 33	1	109 14	35 1	
Idaho Wyo	4	•	16	-	10	2	5	-	142	2	38	65	-	49	32	
Colo.	2	Ū	90	U	46	82	17	υ	23	U U	63	45	Ū	4	1	
N. Mex. Ariz	4	-	81	-	12	31	7	N	N	-	17	24	-	-	-	
Utah	-	-	126		-	114	6	-	9	-	49 26	13	-	32	-	
Nev.	1	-	214	-	3	4	6	-	15	-	4	1	-	8	1	
PACIFIC Wash.	261 19	649	8,680	1	156	1,935	489	5	488	25	504	356	-	526	150	
Oreg.	12	-	168	-	44	29	53	Ň	43 N	15	58	9	-	10	4	
Calif. Alaska	224	648	8,223	1	37	1,824	363	4	423	9	267	184	-	503	125	
Hawaii	4	1	,0	-	4	30	5	-	18	-	38	15	-	13	21	
Guam	3	U	-	υ	1	4	-	U	3	υ	-	1	U	-	-	
Р.К. V.I.	2	ū	1,634 21	ñ		513	9		7	,î	6	4		-	8	
Amer. Samoa	35	ŭ	190	ŭ	-	-	-	ŭ	19	ŭ	:	-	Ŭ	-	-	
J.N.M.I.	-	U	-	U	-	-	-	U	8	υ	4	-	U	-	-	

TABLE II. (Cont'd.) Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending September 15, 1990, and September 16, 1989 (37th Week)

*For measles only, imported cases includes both out-of-state and international importations. N: Not notifiable U: Unavailable ¹International ⁵Out-of-state

Reporting Area	Syphilis (Primary &	(Civilian) Secondary)	Toxic- shock Syndrome	Tuber	culosis	Tula- remia	Typhoid Fever	- Typhus Fever (Tick-borne) (RMSF)	Rabies, Animal
	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1989	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1989	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990	Cum. 1990
UNITED STATES	33,663	30,273	227	16,424	14,895	96	315	453	3,060
NEW ENGLAND Maine N.H.	1,222 7 40	1,210 8 10	18 7 1	385 - 3	406 12 19	3	22	14	5 - 2
Vt.	1		-	7	7	:	-		-
Mass. R I	481	369	8	211 49	208 47	3	21	13	
Conn.	678	800	1	115	113	-	1	1	3
MID. ATLANTIC Upstate N.Y. N.Y. City	6,815 615 3,206	6,209 616 2,758	22 8 5	3,965 298 2,492	2,883 235 1,588	1	71 14 39	20 10 -	681 91
Pa.	1,125	1,844	9	518	487		3	3	365
E.N. CENTRAL Ohio Ind.	2,391 385 62	1,264 105 46	52 19 1	1,584 275 138	1,526 268 137	2 1 1	24 5 1	41 31 1	137 9 9
Mich.	739	444	24	312	335	-	4	7	24 44
Wis.	230	113	-	63	87	-	1	-	51
W.N. CENTRAL Minn. Iowa Mo.	368 71 50 194	242 37 29 123	25 2 6 8	421 73 43 218	372 72 28 176	35 - 26	4 - 1 3	45 - 1 29	496 188 17 19
N. Dak.	1	3	-	15	12	;	-	-	70
S. Dak. Nebr. Kans.	9 42	21 28	3 6	9 14 49	18 18 48	4 3 2	-	2 1 12	160 4 38
S. ATLANTIC Del. Md.	11,073 131 834	10,955 135 558	21 1 1	3,062 26 233	3,154 30 260	3 - -	44 - 18	191 1 13	852 20 313
D.C. Va. W. Va.	754 611 57	608 383 13	1 2 -	117 260 52	138 252 54	1	- 3 1	18 1	- 142 30
N.C.	1,234	742	10	394	399	1	2	112	7
Ga. Fla.	2,868 3,848	2,737 5,178	2 1 3	340 506 1,134	354 477 1,190	1 - -	1 2 17	35 9 2	102 158 80
E.S. CENTRAL Ky. Tenn.	3,054 63 1,209	1,970 41 821	12 2 8	1,179 281 315	1,184 287 354	7 1 6	2 1	62 9 45	132 37 27
Ala. Miss.	958 824	626 482	2	368 215	337 206	-	1	8	65 3
W.S. CENTRAL Ark.	5,151 362	4,146 264	11	1,918 254	1,789 185	30 22	11 -	63 15	368 39
Okla.	169	69	7	144	155	8	2	41	103
Tex.	3,449	2,817	3	1,350	1,200	-	9	5	198
MOUNTAIN Mont.	628	438	24	394	330	12	18	10 4	158 39
Idaho	6	1	2	11	21	-	-	-	5
Wyo. Colo.	37	6 57	2	3 21	39	3	-	- 1	45 10
N. Mex.	32	21	3	84	61	4	-	i	7
Ariz.	454	186	7	172	138	-	16	1	27
Nev.	91	153	-	49	34	-	2	-	16
PACIFIC	2,961	3,839	42	3,516	3,251	3	119	7	231
Wash. Oreg	252	326 178	4	193	168	1	20	-	-
Calif.	2,589	3,323	35	3,068	2,808	-	91	1	208
Alaska Hawaii	11 8	3	-	30 134	46 126	2	- A	- F	22
Guam	2	5		33	60	-	4	5	-
P.R.	204	385	-	66	210	-	-	-	33
V.I. Amer. Samoa	8	8	-	4	4 7	:	- 1	-	-
C.N.M.I.	3	8	-	40	19	-	4	-	-

TABLE II. (Cont'd.) Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending September 15, 1990, and September 16, 1989 (37th Week)

U: Unavailable

	All Causes By Age (Vesrs)								T		iene P	v Ago	Veerel		
Reporting Area			1363, 0	7 ~90	rears/		P&I**	Reporting Area	All		1505, D	y Age	Tears)		P&I**
	Ages	≥65	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	Total		Ages	≥65	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	Total
NEW ENGLAND	624	443	111	40	13	17	42	S. ATLANTIC	1,267	749	268	156	51	43	58
Boston, Mass.	180	120	41	10	2	7	14	Atlanta, Ga.	175	103	41	25	5	1	2
Cambridge, Mass	16	28	9		2	1	1	Baltimore, Md.	238	144	45	33	9	7	14
Fall River, Mass.	26	24	-	2	-			Lacksonville Fla	83	51	16	10	3	3	11
Hartford, Conn.	67	44	10	7	4	2	3	Miami, Fla.	126	59	40	20	5	2	2
Lowell, Mass.	26	20	3	1	-	2	1	Norfolk, Va.	58	33	10	7	3	5	4
Lynn, wass. New Bedford Mass	28	24	2	-	-	-	1	Richmond, Va.	90	51	16	5	6	12	8
New Haven, Conn.	36	20	10	5	1		2	Savannah, Ga. St. Petersburg, Ela	47	28	10	6	2	1	3
Providence, R.I.	31	23	6	2	-	-	3	Tampa, Fla.	83	59	12	7	2	3	3
Somerville, Mass.	11	10	-	-	1	-	1	Washington, D.C.	169	89	39	28	10	3	4
Springfield, Mass. Waterbury, Conn	50	3/	10	1	1	1	8	Wilmington, Del.	22	14	6	2	-	-	-
Worcester, Mass.	61	46	10	3	2	4	25	E.S. CENTRAL	747	474	165	54	24	30	47
	2 567	1 655	E10	200	-	~		Birmingham, Ala.	98	59	24	8	2	5	1
Albany, N.Y.	2,007	1,000	510	280	02	60	140	Chattanooga, Tenn.	72	48	19	5	-		7
Allentown, Pa.	21	14	7	-			2	Knoxville, Tenn.	6/	44	15		3	4	6
Buffalo, N.Y.	90	55	21	8	3	3	3	Memphis, Tenn.	166	93	37	14	8	14	15
Camden, N.J.	40	19	13	3	5	-	-	Mobile, Ala.§	96	64	16	9	5	2	3
Erie. Pa.t	43	36	5	1	-	;	3	Montgomery, Ala.§	41	31	6	2	1	1	2
Jersey City, N.J.	73	37	19	10	3	4	4	Nashville, Tenn.	116	77	29	6	1	3	0
N.Y. City, N.Y.	1,305	824	249	180	37	15	58	W.S. CENTRAL	1,722	1,066	357	184	69	46	62
Newark, N.J.	63	19	23	12	1	8	1	Austin, Tex.	46	34	6	2	3	1	5
Philadelphia, Pa.	393	258	3	20	10	4	-	Corpus Christi Tex 8	55 43	30	8	2		-	3
Pittsburgh, Pa.†	85	52	19	- 30	10	2	21	Dallas, Tex.	178	103	38	19	7	11	7
Reading, Pa.	41	35	5	1	-	· .	7	El Paso, Tex.	74	56	10	5	1	2	4
Rochester, N.Y.	111	91	10	4	1	5	12	Fort Worth, Tex	88	48	21	10	4	16	18
Scranton, Pa t	28	20		-	:	1	2	little Bock Ark	/34	430	169	89	24	6	4
Syracuse, N.Y.	95	67	22	3		3	4	New Orleans, La.	103	63	15	12	12	1	-
Trenton, N.J.	38	26	4	8	-		4	San Antonio, Tex.	170	101	37	24	6	2	5
Utica, N.Y. Yonkers, N.Y.	16	14	2	-	-	-	-	Shreveport, La.	26	16	5	2	3	-	1
EN CENTRAL	23	19	3	1	-	-	3	Tuisa, Okia.	125	84	24	10	07	2	35
Akron, Ohio	2,203	1,4/6	468	175	65	79	80		685	441	117	/6	4	- 24	6
Canton, Ohio	32	23	6	3	2		2	Colo. Springs, Colo.	43	34	4	4	1	-	4
Chicago, III.§	564	362	125	45	10	22	16	Denver, Colo.	96	58	11	11	5	11	7
Cleveland Ohio	113	77	19	8	5	4	8	Las Vegas, Nev.	122	78	23	10	9	2	2
Columbus, Ohio	128	85 104	26	.8	4	5	1	Phoenix Ariz	19	14	3	14	- 3	8	1
Dayton, Ohio	98	64	22	15	4 5	3	4	Pueblo, Colo.	23	16	4	3		-	3
Detroit, Mich.	271	144	66	27	15	19	3	Salt Lake City, Utah	44	28	3	6	4	3	1
Evansville, Ind.	39	29	5	5	-	-	-	Tucson, Ariz.	119	84	23	11	1	-	2
Gary, Ind.	17	46	12	4	-	3	7	PACIFIC	1,898	1,213	339	205	77	59	92
Grand Rapids, Mich.	. 67	46	10	5	2	1	-	Berkeley, Calif.	16	14	· _	1	1	-	1
Indianapolis, Ind.	175	115	35	13	5	7	5	Fresho, Calif.	42	28	1	5		1	ż
Milwaukee Wie	38	26	5	4	2	1	3	Honolulu, Hawaii	68	48	12	4	3	1	9
Peoria, III.	58	104	21	11	2	2	4	Long Beach, Calif.	77	52	13	8	2	2	10
Rockford, III.	37	29	6	4	2	;	4	Los Angeles Calif.	519	301	89	78	29	18	10
South Bend, Ind.	57	37	11	5	2	2	3	Oakland, Calif.	68	38	16	7	5	4	2
Youngstown Ohio	98	68	23	4	3		6	Portland Oreg	152	105	27	11	4	5	5
	40	31	11	2	1	1	5	Sacramento, Calif.	145	96	25	13	3	8	16
Des Moines Jowa	851	580	144	68	35	24	42	San Diego, Calif.	174	113	28	15	10	8	17
Duluth, Minn.	31	41	14	-	9	5	3	San Francisco, Calif.	169	100	44	18	1	5	47
Kansas City, Kans.	25	20 19	4	5	2	-	1	Seattle Wash	161	109	27	15	97	2	í
Kansas City, Mo.	105	76	18		-	-	-	Spokane, Wash	48	36	52	5		ĩ	3
LINCOIN, Nebr.	34	28	6		-	-	3	Tacoma, Wash.	37	27	7	ĩ	1	1	2
Omaha, Nebr	221	151	34	24	5	7	13	TOTAL	12.624 *	* 8,097	2,479	1,238	423	382	598
St. Louis, Mo.	144	59	21	14	8	1	5			2,007	_, 0	.,			
St. Paul, Minn.	78	63	25	12	4	8	4								
Wichita, Kans.	41	29	9	• •	3	,	3								
			•		•	-	•	1							

TABLE III. Deaths in 121 U.S. cities,* week ending September 15, 1990 (37th Week)

*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.

Hecause 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.

\$Data not available. Figures are estimates based on average of past available 4 weeks.

Tuberculin Reactions - Continued

suggest that HIV infection can depress tuberculin reactions before signs and symptoms develop. Because additional diagnostic studies (e.g., CD4 cell counts, anergy test panels, β -2-microglobulin, p-24 antigen levels, or other measures of the stage of HIV disease) were not done in these women, the investigators could not determine whether nonreactivity to tuberculin was associated with more advanced HIV disease.

However, a recent study in Florida of patients who were reported as having both TB and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) indicated that the probability of tuberculin anergy was inversely related to the interval between diagnosis of TB and diagnosis of AIDS (6). Tuberculin skin testing in asymptomatic HIV-seropositive and HIV-seronegative intravenous-drug users in Switzerland and in prisoners in Italy also detected lower rates of PPD reactivity among those with HIV infection (7,8). In Italy, the mean CD4 count for those with HIV infection was 569/mm³, and the CD4:CD8 ratio was 0.6:1.0; both of these values were lower than normal. Thus, the reliability of tuberculin skin tests in screening for TB and tuberculous infection may be lower in HIV-infected persons, especially those with low CD4 counts.

An important finding in Uganda is that the prior administration of BCG appears to maintain tuberculin reactivity at higher levels than in persons with "natural" mycobacterial infection. Therefore, prior BCG vaccination complicates the interpretation of skin test results and decisions about preventive therapy (9).

The Adivsory Committee for Elimination of Tuberculosis and the American Thoracic Society recommend that tuberculin reactions ≥ 5 mm be considered positive in HIV-seropositive persons (regardless of BCG vaccination status) and that such persons be considered for isoniazid prophylaxis (2). Based on the data from Uganda and the other sources cited above, persons with HIV infection and tuberculin skin test reaction sizes <5 mm who have evidence of immunosuppression (e.g., CD4 count $<400/\text{mm}^3$ and/or anergy to other delayed-type hypersensitivity skin test antigens) may also need to be considered for isoniazid preventive therapy; such consideration should also be based on individual clinical and epidemiologic assessments of the likelihood of *M. tuberculosis* infection.

The problem of HIV-related tuberculin anergy among persons in the United States requires further evaluation, and a more sensitive and specific method for diagnosing tuberculous infection among immunosuppressed persons is needed. Studies of the usefulness of CD4 counts or other laboratory parameters in predicting anergy and of the optimal method of determining anergy (e.g., single antigen or anergy panel) are particularly important. CDC will be developing more specific recommendations on anergy testing and the administration of preventive therapy for immunosuppressed persons.

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Health Objectives for the Nation

Progress Toward Achieving the 1990 Objectives for the Nation for Fluoridation and Dental Health

Twelve of the 1990 Health Objectives for the Nation addressed fluoridation and dental health (1). Progress has been made toward the two objectives that specified development of an integrated, comprehensive system for surveillance of oral health status and programs (2). However, published data are insufficient to assess achievement of four objectives—those concerning childhood gingivitis, limitation of access to foods that promote tooth decay, use of mouth guards in contact sports, and school water fluoridation. This report summarizes progress toward the remaining six dental health objectives.

By 1990, the proportion of nine-year-old children who have experienced dental caries in their permanent teeth should be decreased to 60 percent.

This objective has been met. In 1986–87, a survey of school children in the United States (3) determined that 35% of 9-year-olds had histories of dental caries in permanent teeth, a decline of 14 percentage points from 1979–80 (Figure 1). (Data for 1979–80 were unavailable when the objective was established.)







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By 1990, in adults the prevalence of gingivitis and destructive periodontal disease should be decreased to 20 percent and 21 percent, respectively.

This objective has been partially met. In 1985–86, 8% of employed adults aged \geq 18 years and 34% of retired adults aged \geq 65 years had at least one periodontal site with \geq 6 mm loss of attachment (4). Gingival bleeding occurred in at least one site among 44% of employed adults and 47% of retired adults. Because the 1985–86 survey used more precise measurements than earlier assessments of periodontal health, these values cannot be compared with data from prior national surveys.

By 1990, at least 95 percent of school children and their parents should be able to identify the principal risk factors related to dental diseases and be aware of the importance of fluoridation and other measures in controlling these diseases.

This objective is unlikely to be met. In the 1985 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) (5), 78% and 89% of adults identified fluoridated water and fluoride toothpaste or rinse, respectively, as "definitely" or "probably" important in preventing tooth decay. In the same survey, 22% of respondents had heard of dental sealant, the specific measure to prevent dental decay that occurs on tooth surfaces with pits and grooves—the most prevalent form of dental decay among children (3).

By 1990, at least 75 percent of adults should be aware of the necessity for both thorough personal oral hygiene and regular professional care in the prevention and control of periodontal disease.

This objective has been met. In 1985, the NHIS determined that 83% of respondents believed brushing and flossing regularly were "definitely important" to prevent "gum disease" and that 82% believed seeing a dentist regularly was "definitely important" (5). In 1986, 57% of all respondents indicated that they had visited a dentist for professional care within the preceding year (6). For those with higher family incomes, private dental insurance, or natural dentitions, the proportion reporting recent dental visits was higher; for example, 74% of those with family incomes \$35,000 had visited a dentist within the preceding year.

By 1990, at least 95 percent of the population on community water systems should be receiving the benefits of optimally fluoridated water.

This objective will not be met. In 1988, 61% of the population served by public water supplies had access to water with fluoride levels sufficient to prevent dental decay (i.e., ≥ 0.7 ppm); of these, 7% received water containing fluoride naturally, and the remainder lived in communities where the water fluoride concentration was adjusted to an optimum level (0.7–1.2 mg/L) (7). Although community water fluoridation results in dental-care cost savings (8), this preventive measure has not been implemented in some areas. Consequently, in five states (California, Hawaii, Nevada, New Jersey, and Utah), only 2%–18% of the population using public water supplies consumed optimally fluoridated water (7).

By 1990, at least 65 percent of school children should be proficient in personal oral hygiene practices and should be receiving other needed preventive dental services in addition to fluoridation.

There are no data regarding the proficiency of schoolchildren in personal oral hygiene practices. However, in the 1986 NHIS, 93% of adults indicated that their children used toothpaste with fluoride (9). Approximately 20% of schoolchildren <12 years of age reportedly had participated in fluoride mouth-rinse programs at school.

Fluoridation and Dental Health – Continued

Other dental-care preventive services, especially those dependent on family disposable income (e.g., the use of dental sealant), varied markedly among groups of children (Figure 2) (9). Regular visits for dental services—crucial to secondary prevention of oral diseases and conditions—also varied by income level and ethnic group (Figure 3) (6).

Reported by: Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Public Health Service, US Department of Health and Human Svcs. Dental Disease Prevention Activity, Center for Prevention Svcs, CDC.

Editorial Note: Both dental caries and destructive periodontal diseases are unique microbial infections; once established, they persist, progress, and do not heal without

FIGURE 2. Percentage of children aged 9–11 years with dental sealant – United States, 1986



FIGURE 3. Percentage of selected groups of children without a recent dental visit – United States, 1986



Fluoridation and Dental Health – Continued

treatment. If postponed, treatment often becomes more complex, painful, and expensive. Consequently, access to and use of oral health services are essential to sustain declines in disease levels. As adults retain an increasing number of functional teeth with age (4), oral health services will become more important among older adults.

Although dental caries among 9-year-old children have declined markedly, the overall decline obscures higher levels of disease among Native American youth (10), children living in rural areas (3), and children whose parents had no education beyond high school (11). In addition, 9-year-old children have only about half their permanent teeth; of 15-year-olds with full permanent dentition, 78% had histories of dental caries – a prevalence more than twice that of 9-year-olds (Figure 1) (3). Studies have indicated that a small proportion of children account for the majority of total dental disease burden (12) and that children from low-income families have substantially higher levels of untreated disease (13).

Among some groups of young children, including Native Americans, "baby bottle tooth decay" (BBTD) (extensive tooth decay of the primary teeth in a characteristic pattern) has emerged as an important problem (14). BBTD occurs secondary to inappropriate feeding practices. Thus, prevention of BBTD requires intervention by dental professionals and other segments of the community (including primary-care physicians, public health nurses, and Women, Infants, and Children program counselors).

Recent data regarding the pathogenesis and epidemiology of major oral diseases indicate that some population subgroups suffer disproportionately from dental caries, destructive periodontal diseases, cancer of the oral cavity and pharynx, and their sequelae. During the 1990s, further improvements in oral health can be achieved by concentrating public health disease prevention efforts on those groups most susceptible to oral diseases.

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Epidemiologic Notes and Reports

Update: Arboviral Surveillance - Florida, 1990

During the summer of 1990, surveillance of St. Louis encephalitis (SLE) and eastern equine encephalitis viruses in vector mosquitoes and avian hosts indicated a high level of viral transmission in nature and a potential for epidemic transmission in several states (1). The Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services initiated weekly active surveillance of county public health units, hospitals, and clinical laboratories in August after rising seroconversion rates were detected in sentinel chickens. Since September 7, epidemic transmission of SLE in central Florida has led to 12 additional confirmed or presumptive cases in humans, bringing the total number of laboratory-documented cases to 18; 52 additional suspected cases are under investigation.

Suspected and laboratory-documented cases have been reported from 13 counties, with most reports from Indian River (51%), Orange (12%), Brevard (10%), and Lake (7%) counties. The earliest onset date for a laboratory-documented case was July 28, and onset of illness for the most recent presumptive case was September 6. Public warnings have been issued, and larviciding and aerial and ground-based adulticiding have been intensified in the affected areas.

Reported by: DL Wells, MD, E Buff, AL Lewis, RA Calder, MD, State Epidemiologist, Florida Dept of Health and Rehabilitative Svcs. Div of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases, Center for Infectious Diseases; Div of Field Svcs, Epidemiology Program Office, CDC.

Editorial Note: The 18 laboratory-documented SLE cases reported from Florida in 1990 constitute the largest outbreak in the state since 1977, when 110 laboratory-documented cases were reported from the same central counties (2). Additional cases may occur because SLE viral transmission in Florida usually peaks in early October (3). Furthermore, in the fall, the principal mosquito vector of SLE in the state, *Culex nigripalpus*, shifts its host feeding preference from avians to mammals (4).

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