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# Fluoroquinolone Resistance in Neisseria gonorrhoeae — Colorado and Washington, 1995

MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT

The fluoroquinolones ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin are among the antimicrobial agents recommended by CDC for treating gonorrhea (1). In the United States, decreased susceptibility or resistance of strains of Neisseria gonorrhoeae to the fluoroquinolones has been reported only sporadically, and treatment failure associated with in vitro resistance has not been described (2). However, the recent occurrence of resistant cases in Denver and Seattle suggests that clinically important resistance to the fluoroquinolones may be emerging. This report describes the findings of the investigations of these cases.

## Denver

On May 24, 1995, a 35-year-old man presented to the Denver Public Health Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic with a history of dysuria and urethral discharge of approximately 1 month's duration. On March 11, he had returned from a "dating tour" of the Philippines during which he had had sexual contact with seven or eight female sex workers (i.e., prostitutes); he denied sexual contact since returning to the United States. He was treated with 400 mg ofloxacin orally in a single dose and was given 100 mg doxycycline to take orally twice a day for 7 days. A B-lactamase-positive strain of N. gonorrhoeae was isolated from a urethral specimen. On June 7, when the patient returned to the clinic with continuing symptoms, gram-negative intracellular diplococci were detected in a smear of urethral discharge. He denied sexual contact since the previous visit but reported he had not completed the prescribed doxycycline regimen. He was again treated with 400 mg ofloxacin and given 500 mg erythromycin to take orally four times a day for 7 days. A B-lactamase-negative strain of N. gonorrhoeae was isolated from a urethral specimen.

Because of suspected quinolone-resistant N. gonorrhoeae infection, the patient was recalled to the clinic on June 16 and treated with 250 mg ceftriaxone intramuscularly, even though his symptoms had resolved. He reported taking erythromycin for 3–4 days. Both a gram-stained smear and culture were negative for *N. gonorrhoeae*.

The susceptibilities of N. gonorrhoeae isolates from the patient's first and second visits were determined by agar dilution and disk diffusion tests (3). The minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs) of the B-lactamase-positive isolate from the first visit were 1.0  $\mu$ g/mL and 2.0  $\mu$ g/mL of ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin, respectively (Table 1);

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the corresponding disk diffusion susceptibilities (inhibition zone diameters) were 21 mm to ciprofloxacin (5- $\mu$ g disk) and 20 mm to ofloxacin (5- $\mu$ g disk). This isolate possessed a 3.2-megadalton ß-lactamase plasmid. The MICs of the ß-lactamase-negative isolate from the second visit were 4.0  $\mu$ g/mL and 8.0  $\mu$ g/mL of ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin, respectively; corresponding inhibition zone diameters were 11 mm to ciprofloxacin and 12 mm to ofloxacin. Both isolates were susceptible to ceftriaxone (MICs, 0.004  $\mu$ g/mL and 0.015  $\mu$ g/mL); the second isolate was resistant to tetracycline-hydrochloride (HCl) (2.0  $\mu$ g/mL). The isolates were further characterized by auxotype/serovar (A/S) class; both belonged to the same A/S class, Pro/IB-8 (Table 1) (4).

## Seattle

From late May through early August 1995, fluoroquinolone-resistant strains of *N. gonorrhoeae* were isolated from eight residents of Seattle-King County, Washington. These strains represented eight (4%) of 225 gonorrhea cases from which isolates were available for testing during this period. Of the eight cases, five occurred among women. Five (63%) of the eight patients infected with this strain were commercial sex workers or sex partners of sex workers compared with 14 (11%) of 126 of a random sample of patients infected with other *N. gonorrhoeae* strains (p<0.01). None of the patients infected with a fluoroquinolone-resistant strain had been treated with a quinolone or had a history of international travel; all had been treated with a broad-spectrum cephalosporin (cefixime or ceftriaxone). Despite expanded laboratory surveillance in King and adjacent counties, no additional cases have been identified since August 10.

These strains had ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin MICs of 8.0  $\mu$ g/mL; inhibition zone diameters to ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin were 12 mm–14 mm and 10 mm–12 mm, respectively. All isolates had a 3.05 megadalton β-lactamase plasmid and were resistant to tetracycline-HCI (2.0  $\mu$ g/mL) but were susceptible to ceftriaxone, cefixime, and

	Der	nver	
Strain characteristics	Visit 1	Visit 2	Seattle*
ß-Lactamase production	positive	negative	positive
ß-lactamase plasmid (megadalton)	3.2	—	3.05
MICs <sup>†</sup> (μg/mL)			
Ciprofloxacin	1.0	4.0	8.0
Ofloxacin	2.0	8.0	8.0
Tetracycline-hydrochloride (HCI)	0.5	2.0	2.0
Ceftriaxone	0.004	0.015	0.01
Cefixime	0.015	0.03	0.03
Erythromycin	0.06	0.5	2.0
Spectinomycin	<128.0	<128.0	<128.0
Inhibition zone diameter (mm)			
Ciprofloxacin (5-µg disk)	21	11	12–14
Ofloxacin (5-µg disk)	20	12	10–12
Auxotype/serovar class	Pro <sup>§</sup> /IB-8	Pro/IB-8	Proto¶/IB-1

TABLE 1. Laboratory findings for isolates of fluoroquinolone-resistant *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, by patient visit — Denver and Seattle, 1995

\*Eight visits by eight different patients.

<sup>†</sup>Minimum inhibitory concentration.

§Proline-requiring.

<sup>¶</sup>Prototrophic.

## Neisseria gonorrhoeae — Continued

spectinomycin (Table 1). All isolates belonged to the same A/S class, Proto/IB-1, and had indistinguishable antimicrobial susceptibility profiles (Table 1), suggesting the spread of a single strain of *N. gonorrhoeae*.

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Editorial Note: The confirmation of the resistant strains in Colorado and Washington has at least four important epidemiologic and clinical implications. First, the infection in the patient from Denver failed to respond to therapy with the CDCrecommended dose of ofloxacin, and the susceptibilities of the infecting strains were consistent with fluoroquinolone resistance (5). Despite reports of sporadic therapy failures in Australia, Hong Kong, and the United Kingdom (6-8), this case report is the first documentation in the United States of a gonococcal infection caused by a strain with in vitro resistance failing to respond to fluoroguinolone therapy. Second, the report from Seattle is the first documentation of sustained transmission of this resistant phenotype in the United States. Third, both the case in Denver and the outbreak in Seattle were associated with commercial sex workers. The isolation of resistant strains from persons who may have large numbers of anonymous sexual contacts suggests the possibility of rapid spread of these strains. Finally, the fluoroquinolone MICs of these strains (Table 1) are substantially higher than those of other fluoroquinolone-resistant strains (ciprofloxacin MIC, 2.0 µg/mL) previously isolated in the United States (2).

The MICs of the strains isolated in both Denver and Seattle suggest that infections caused by such strains often would fail to respond to treatment with the CDC-recommended doses of these fluoroquinolones. Although doxycycline is used to treat patients with gonorrhea for possible coexisting chlamydial infection, one of the strains isolated from the patient in Denver and all the isolates from Seattle were resistant to tetracycline (Table 1) (3). Thus, infections caused by such strains that fail to respond to treatment with a fluoroquinolone also may fail to respond to doxycycline.

The patient in Denver probably acquired his fluoroquinolone-resistant gonococcal infection in the Philippines—an exposure that is consistent with a recent report of high-level fluoroquinolone-resistant *N. gonorrhoeae* among commercial sex workers in the Philippines (9). No international link has been identified for the cluster of cases in Seattle.

The findings in this report of high-level fluoroquinolone resistance are consistent with recent results from the Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project (GISP), a national surveillance system (10). During 1994, two (0.04%) of 4996 isolates from 24 sexually transmitted diseases clinics had ciprofloxacin MICs  $\geq 1.0 \mu$ g/mL, the provisional criterion for resistance to ciprofloxacin (5). However, 65 (1.3%) of 4996 isolates exhibited decreased susceptibilities to ciprofloxacin (MICs, 0.125–0.5  $\mu$ g/mL), an increase from 17 (0.3%) of 5238 isolates tested in 1991 (p $\leq$ 0.001). Only one additional ciprofloxacin-resistant *N. gonorrhoeae* case has been detected among approximately 2500 isolates tested by GISP during 1995 (CDC, unpublished data, 1995).

Although fluoroquinolone resistance does not appear to be widespread in the United States, the cases described in this report emphasize the need for heightened

### Neisseria gonorrhoeae — Continued

awareness about the potential for the emergence of clinically important resistance. Isolates obtained from patients whose infections fail to respond to fluoroquinolone therapy or from patients who have acquired their infections in certain parts of Asia should be tested for susceptibility to fluoroquinolones using the disk diffusion method recommended by the National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards (*3*). Based on theoretical predictions and a limited number of documented failures of gonococcal infections to respond to fluoroquinolones, CDC has proposed criteria for defining a resistance category of susceptibilities to ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin (*5*). Strains with MICs of  $\geq 1.0 \mu$ g/mL ciprofloxacin or  $\geq 2.0 \mu$ g/mL ofloxacin are interpreted as resistant to these agents. The corresponding inhibition zone diameters obtained by disk diffusion susceptibility testing are  $\leq 29$  mm to ciprofloxacin and  $\leq 24$  mm to ofloxacin (*5*).

Because fluoroquinolone-resistant *N. gonorrhoeae* strains appear to be occurring infrequently in the United States, CDC continues to recommend treating gonorrhea either with a single dose of 500 mg ciprofloxacin, 400 mg ofloxacin, 400 mg cefixime orally, or 125 mg ceftriaxone intramuscularly. Each agent should be followed by treatment with a regimen effective against possible infection with *Chlamydia trachomatis*. Lower doses of either the fluoroquinolones or cephalosporins should not be used. For patients who may have acquired infection in certain parts of Asia, clinicians should consider treatment with cefixime, ceftriaxone, or spectinomycin when treatment with a cephalosporin is contraindicated. The appropriateness of these recommendations will be reassessed based on surveillance of the prevalence of fluoroquinolone-resistant gonococci.

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# Unintentional Carbon Monoxide Poisonings in Residential Settings — Connecticut, November 1993–March 1994

Carbon monoxide (CO) gas is an environmental hazard, and unintentional CO poisonings have occurred in multiple settings, including residences, motor vehicles, and workplaces. In 1993, exposure to CO produced by a malfunctioning natural gas furnace in a Suffield, Connecticut, home resulted in the deaths of three children and hospitalization of four other family members. Publicity resulting from this and other CO poisoning incidents prompted concern that gas furnaces have been a primary cause of residential CO poisonings in Connecticut. To determine the sources of residential CO poisonings in Connecticut, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CDPH) surveyed persons with cases of CO poisoning during November 1993– March 1994. This report presents the survey findings.

CDPH reviewed the daily telephone logs of the Connecticut Poison Control Center (CPCC) to identify potential nonfatal CO poisonings during November 1993–March 1994. To determine whether potential cases met the case definition for a CO poisoning and whether the source of CO was residential, nurses from the CPCC collected additional details about poisonings through telephone interviews. A case was defined as two or more symptoms consistent with CO poisoning (i.e., headache, nausea, diarrhea, dizziness, dry mouth, drowsiness, or vomiting) or CO poisoning diagnosed by a physician and a carboxyhemoglobin (COHb) level >10% (normal concentration: <2% for nonsmokers, 5%–9% for smokers). A 32-item questionnaire was administered by CDPH to one adult respondent in each household to obtain information about demographics and socioeconomic status for each person in the household with CO poisoning, as well as information about symptoms, potential CO sources, details of the investigation and remediation of CO in the home, and the respondent's knowledge of CO poisoning before the incident.

A total of 197 records of potential nonfatal CO poisonings were identified; of these, 139 (71%) contained both the name and telephone number of persons with potential cases. Overall, 61 (44%) persons could be contacted, and 51 (84%) were considered to have had CO poisoning resulting from exposure to a residential source of CO. These 51 persons ranged in age from 1 to 71 years (median: 32 years); most (83%) were aged 20–49 years. Persons with CO poisoning resided in 36 households: 19 (53%) single-family dwellings, 11 (31%) multifamily dwellings, four (11%) apartments, and two (6%) dwellings classified as other.

The most common source of CO in these 36 homes was heating systems: oil heating systems (16 households), gas heating systems (11), and kerosene heaters (three). Gas appliances and fireplaces were identified as the CO source in six households.

Reported symptoms for the 51 patients included headache (88%), dizziness (83%), nausea (75%), drowsiness (75%), dry mouth (44%), diarrhea (17%), and vomiting (11%). For 28 (55%) patients, the first symptom noted was headache; for eight (16%), dizziness; for seven (13%), nausea; for five (10%), dry mouth; and for three (6%), drowsiness. Twenty-two (43%) patients consulted a physician. Of the 33 patients who suspected they were experiencing CO poisoning, 10 (30%) became concerned because of information obtained previously from television news media; eight (24%), because of prior knowledge of CO poisoning; eight (24%), because of information previously learned from others; four (12%), because of an odor from a malfunctioning

#### Carbon Monoxide Poisonings — Continued

appliance; two (6%), because of a CO detector; and one (4%), because of some other reason. For 32 cases, data were available about the interval between onset of symptoms and the time at which the patient first considered CO as the cause of symptoms: for 10 (31%), the interval was <1 hour; for three (9%), 1–12 hours; for five (16%), 24.1 hours–4 days; for one (3%), 4.1–7 days; and for 13 (41%), >7 days.

The 36 respondents also were asked about possible methods to prevent CO exposure: 22 (61%) provided one method, eight (22%) provided two, and one (3%) provided three; five (14%) were unable to list any method. Prevention methods included appropriate maintenance of appliances (16), use of a CO detector (14), proper ventilation of the room (five), public education (three), and other actions (three).

Sources of CO were identified primarily by heating-system technicians (48%) or a resident (38%). Sources also were identified by fire department personnel (10%) or building officials (3%). Methods of identification were visual inspection of the furnace or heating system (63%), process of elimination (18%), CO meters (11%), and other (7%). Actions taken to correct the CO emissions included replacing the furnace; ventilating the room; and/or cleaning, repairing, or discontinuing use of the malfunctioning appliance.

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**Editorial Note**: Unintentional CO poisonings result in approximately 600 deaths annually in the United States (1). A surveillance system implemented by the Colorado Department of Health in 1985 has helped to characterize the epidemiology of fatal and nonfatal CO poisonings (2). Findings from this system indicate that, during 1986–1991, the primary sources of 1149 CO poisonings in Colorado were furnaces in residential settings (40%), automobile exhaust (24%), and fires (12%). Furnaces were the source of CO in 46% of nonfatal CO poisonings but only 10% of fatal poisonings, suggesting that the primary sources of CO associated with nonfatal poisonings differ from those for fatal cases. In addition, findings from the Colorado surveillance system indicate that mortality data may underestimate the importance of furnaces as a source of CO in residential settings.

Other studies also have documented that furnaces are important sources of CO in residential CO poisonings. For example, of the 38 residential CO-related episodes investigated in West Virginia during 1978–1984, furnaces or space heaters were implicated in most (89%) incidents (*3*); 94% of the faulty units were fueled by methane or butane. In Connecticut, although most (75%) CO poisonings were caused by faulty furnaces, oil-fueled furnaces were the source of CO more often than natural gas—possibly reflecting a higher percentage of oil- or kerosene-fueled furnaces in homes in New England (51% in homes in New England compared with 6% in the Midwest, 7% in the South, and 2% in the West) (*4*). In addition, based on the 1990 census, the distribution of furnace types identified as sources of CO in this survey is representative of the distribution throughout Connecticut (gas furnaces, 28%, and oil or kerosene furnaces, 54%) (*4*).

CDPH is using the findings in this report to educate the public about sources of CO and strategies to prevent CO poisoning. Prevention of CO poisoning requires that 1) homeowners and renters recognize that all combustion appliances must be

### Carbon Monoxide Poisonings - Continued

professionally installed to ensure both complete combustion of the fuel and adequate ventilation of combustion products (4); 2) combustion appliances be maintained and inspected annually; 3) fuels not be burned in confined spaces (e.g., tightly closed rooms); 4) public education efforts highlight the early manifestations of CO intoxication; 5) homeowners and renters be informed about the availability of low-cost CO detectors and public health agencies document the effectiveness of these devices; and 6) health-care providers—particularly emergency department personnel—consider the possibility of poisoning from residential exposure to CO in patients reporting typical symptoms (e.g., headache, nausea, vomiting, and malaise). Additional information about CO detectors is available from the Consumer Product Safety Commission hotline (800) 638-2772 or (301) 504-0220.

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# HIV Risk Practices of Male Injecting-Drug Users Who Have Sex with Men — Dallas, Denver, and Long Beach, 1991–1994

As of June 1995, a total of 31,024 cases of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) had been reported in the United States among male injecting-drug users (IDUs) who also reported sexual contact with other men (1). Although male IDUs who report male sex partners have accounted for 7% of all AIDS cases and for 21% of cases reported among IDUs, the characteristics and risk practices of male IDUs who have sex with men (MSM) have not been clearly determined (2–4). To better characterize this group of men with multiple risk factors for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, data collected during February 1991 through June 1994 from three sites—Dallas; Denver; and Long Beach, California—were analyzed as part of the CDC-sponsored AIDS Community Demonstration Projects (5,6). This report summarizes results of that analysis.

The Community Demonstration Projects included interviews of male IDUs conducted in neighborhoods with a high prevalence of drug use. Trained interviewers approached potential respondents on the street to administer a screening interview that assessed recent HIV risk practices (i.e., needle sharing during the preceding 60 days or vaginal or anal intercourse during the preceding 30 days). At-risk persons also completed a second interview about perceived risk for HIV infection, druginjection practices, and sexual behavior. A cash incentive or grocery vouchers were provided for completing each interview. This report presents data for men who reported injecting drugs during the preceding 30 days.

#### HIV Risk Practices — Continued

Nearly all (1697 [93%] of 1820) of the sexually active male IDUs who were screened completed the second interview. Of these, 297 (18%) reported having had one or more male sex partners during the preceding 30 days. The percentage of MSM IDUs varied by city (Denver, 28%; Dallas, 22%; and Long Beach, 10%). Nearly two thirds (178 [60%] of 297) of MSM IDUs self-identified as bisexual, 97 (33%) as heterosexual, and 15 (5%) as homosexual; seven (2%) were undecided about their sexual identity. Most MSM IDUs in this sample were black (192 [65%] of 297), aged  $\geq$ 30 years (224 [75%]), and recruited at the Denver site (167 [56%]).

A total of 224 (75%) MSM IDUs had traded sex for money or drugs during the preceding 30 days. Almost all (283 [95%]) had had more than one sex partner during the preceding 30 days. The mean number of male partners during the preceding 30 days was 3.8 (range: 1–41; standard deviation [SD]:  $\pm$ 5.6). Most (263 [89%]) reported having one or more (mean: 4.5, range: 0–61, SD:  $\pm$ 6.4) female sex partners. A total of 148 (50%) reported having had a partner whom they identified as their main or primary sex partner. Of those with a main partner, 110 (74%) of 148 indicated this partner was female.

Nearly all MSM IDUs (290 [98%]) reported having ever had vaginal intercourse. During the preceding 30 days, 267 (90%) had had vaginal intercourse with main and/or other partners. Of those with a female main partner, 13 (12%) of 105 reported using a condom the last time they had vaginal intercourse; of those who had had vaginal sex with someone they did not consider to be their main partner (i.e., non-main partner), 30 (13%) of 233 had used a condom at last intercourse.

Nearly all (282 [95%]) had ever engaged in anal intercourse; 201 (71%) had had anal intercourse with both men and women, 51 (18%) with men only, and 30 (11%) with women only. Most (250 [84%] of 297) had also had anal intercourse during the preceding 30 days. Data regarding condom use during anal intercourse during the preceding 30 days were collected for a subset of respondents. Eight (23%) of 35 of those with a male main partner and eight (20%) of 41 of those with a female main partner used a condom the last time they had anal intercourse with this partner. Among MSM IDUs with non-main partners, 53 (27%) of 200 used a condom the last time they had anal intercourse.

During the preceding 60 days, 250 (86%) of 292 MSM IDUs reported having shared syringes or other paraphernalia used to prepare or inject illicit drugs. Less than one third (73 [29%] of 248) indicated that the last time they shared injection equipment they used bleach to clean their needle or syringe.

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**Editorial Note**: Approximately 18% of male IDUs interviewed at the three sites in this study reported having had sex with another male during the previous 30 days—a rate higher than that reported for a national sample of men aged 20–39 years (7), but consistent with previous studies of male IDUs (2,4). Although these previous studies were based on convenience samples and the estimates probably were not representative of the total population of IDUs, the range for the prevalence of MSM activity among IDUs is similar to that documented in the three sites in this report.

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#### HIV Risk Practices — Continued

In this study, the prevalences of drug-injection and sexual practices associated with the transmission of HIV infection were high among MSM IDUs, including recent sharing of injection equipment, trading of sex for money or drugs, engaging in anal sex, and having had multiple sex partners. Because such practices increase the risk for acquiring and/or transmitting HIV infection to needle-sharing and sex partners, intervention programs for MSM IDUs should address both drug-related and sexual risk factors.

The findings in this report also indicate that sexual self-identification as heterosexual or homosexual may not correspond with sexual practices. Assessment of risk for HIV infection should be based on behavior, regardless of self-identification. Selfidentification as heterosexual or bisexual, however, may be useful in planning and conducting intervention activities (8). For example, efforts to provide preventive measures to MSM IDUs who do not self-identify as homosexual may need to be directed through a variety of settings because such men may ignore or resist messages that appear to be targeted toward men who are homosexual.

The use of neighborhood-based samples in Dallas, Denver, and Long Beach may have resulted in some biases. For example, some important subgroups (e.g., amphetamine users and men who self-identify as homosexual) probably were undersampled, while other groups (e.g., men who traded sex for money or drugs) may have been oversampled. Although these potential sampling biases may have influenced the patterns of HIV risk in this study, the extent to which these biases affected the estimates of HIV risk among MSM IDUs could not be assessed.

The development of programs for preventing HIV transmission among MSM IDUs requires that public health agencies and local community-planning groups characterize the risk for this group and examine available data from AIDS case reports, HIV counseling and testing sites, and behavioral surveillance surveys. Determinants for risk that may vary by location include demographic characteristics, patterns of sexual practices and of substance use, and access to HIV-prevention services.

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## FIGURE I. Notifiable disease reports, comparison of 4-week totals ending October 14, 1995, with historical data — United States

\* The large apparent decrease in the number of reported cases of measles (total) reflects dramatic fluctuations in the historical baseline.

<sup>†</sup>Ratio of current 4-week total to mean of 15 4-week totals (from previous, comparable, and subsequent 4-week periods for the past 5 years). The point where the hatched area begins is based on the mean and two standard deviations of these 4-week totals.

## TABLE I. Summary — cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, cumulative, week ending October 14, 1995 (41st Week)

	Cum. 1995		Cum. 1995
Anthrax Brucellosis Cholera Congenital rubella syndrome Diphtheria <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> * Hansen Disease Plague Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	72 14 6 915 107 7	Psittacosis Rabies, human Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Syphilis, congenital, age < 1 year <sup>†</sup> Tetanus Toxic shock syndrome Trichinosis Typhoid fever	51 1 476 280 23 143 26 253

\*Of 896 cases of known age, 215 (24%) were reported among children less than 5 years of age. <sup>1</sup>Updated quarterly from reports to the Division of STD Prevention, National Center for Prevention Services. This total through second quarter 1995.

-: no reported cases

**Beyond Historical Limits** 

				Hepatitis (Viral), by type								
Reporting Area	AIDS*	AIDS* Gonorrhea		l	4	E	3	C/N/	A,NB	Legior	Legionellosis	
	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	
UNITED STATES	54,704	274,727	317,670	21,950	19,225	7,447	8,978	3,024	3,232	979	1,229	
NEW ENGLAND Maine	2,653 81	4,663 66	6,590 72	237 23	236 21	167 7	269 11	93	123	28 5	64 4	
N.H. Vt.	77 30	91 48	89 27	8	16 9	18 1	23 6	12 1	9 12	1	-	
Mass. R I	1,137	2,251 417	2,528	103 28	88 20	67 8	154 7	73 7	82 20	18 4	44 16	
Conn.	1,136	1,790	3,501	70	82	66	68	-	-	N	N	
MID. ATLANTIC Upstate N.Y.	14,696 1,736	26,830 3,846	34,987 8,093	1,300 348	1,346 455	984 310	1,160 305	331 185	372 177	155 42	194 47	
N.Y. City N.J.	7,624 3,575	9,775 3,324	13,353 3,985	605 173	515 232	294 232	256 300	1 108	1 163	4 21	6 37	
Pa.	1,761	9,885	9,556	174	144	148	299	37	31	88	104 252	
Ohio	4,122 852	17,515	16,921	1,486	735	/ 30 88 192	934 137	220 9 4	209	127	160 24	
III.	1,736	16,774	19,568	217	483	94	246	33	74	13	30	
Wis.	825 280	4,595	6,146	138	186	327 44	307 78	172	- 167	25 27	69 55	
W.N. CENTRAL Minn.	1,266 285	15,337 2,238	17,533 2,549	1,480 157	974 188	479 50	524 48	101 4	69 14	99 6	83 2	
Iowa Mo.	71 564	1,192 8,901	1,200 9,643	55 1.055	54 495	43 321	24 397	13 57	9 18	20 47	28 30	
N. Dak. S. Dak	6 15	20 131	33 173	23 49	5 31	4	- 2	8	1	4	4	
Nebr. Kans	84 241	757 2 098	1,059	35 106	109 92	23 36	24 29	6 12	11 16	12 7	13 5	
S. ATLANTIC	14,155	80,200	85,085	1,039	996	1,123	1,636	274	341	172	299	
Del. Md.	241 2,250	1,771 7,471	1,543 14,828	/ 171	21 145	2 210	12 285	1 4	1 17	2 27	31 67	
D.C. Va.	827 1,082	3,668 8,350	5,767 10,536	20 169	18 141	15 93	40 104	- 16	1 21	4 18	6 8	
W. Va. N.C.	86 816	543 19,208	638 21,998	21 89	17 111	45 224	33 227	43 47	25 51	4 31	3 20	
S.C. Ga.	766 1,784	9,844 13,038	10,552 U	40 55	32 26	40 63	25 516	16 15	8 173	31 23	15 103	
Fla.	6,303	16,307	19,223	467	485	431	394	132	44	32	46	
E.S. CENTRAL Ky.	221	33,021	37,214 4,031	1,524	133	54	910 67	783 22	24	43	8	
Ala.	709 484	10,908	12,047	1,261	214 82	512 85	64	759 2	15	24	36 12	
MISS. W.S. CENTRAL	349 4,691	4,978 27.091	8,736 38,768	156 3,488	62 2,498	- 1.087	- 1.020	- 246	- 259	3 16	16 35	
Ark.	209 785	2,757	5,323 9,671	369 102	156 128	37 154	22 141	4 140	7 145	1	6 12	
Okla. Tex	206 3.491	4,550	3,742	819 2.198	278	134 762	114 743	35	48 59	57	11	
MOUNTAIN	1,716	6,833	7,916	3,166	3,794	626	524	344	357	96	73	
Mont. Idaho	17 38	55 99	72 69	118 248	18 278	19 67	18 67	13 41	11 64	4 2	14 1	
Wyo. Colo.	12 523	85 2,290	68 2,741	98 433	24 417	20 101	22 81	136 54	129 58	12 35	4 15	
N. Mex. Ariz.	137 545	799 2.591	801 2.540	677 895	891 1.533	244 92	169 58	39 37	44 22	4 9	3 9	
Utah Nev.	112 332	131 783	199 1,426	568 129	434 199	54 29	62 47	10 14	15 14	14 16	6 21	
PACIFIC	9,642	21,018	26,126	7,444	6,945	1,594	2,001	632	694	115	57	
Oreg.	347	2,181	2,334 826	1,610	873	146 64	187	29	202	20	10	
Alaska	8,328 60	17,578 565	21,652 730	5,013 46	5,040 180	1,362	1,650	408	452	90	45	
Hawaii Guam	190 -	445 65	584 105	126 ح	44 22	13 1	25 4	38	5	5 1	2	
P.R.	1,925	470	395	81	52	455	293 7	18	140 1	-	-	
Amer. Samoa	-	24 23	25 25 45	6 15	3 8 8	- 7	, - 1	-	-	-	-	
G. 1 W. 1 W. 1.	-	23	40	15	U	,		-	-	-	-	

TABLE II. Cases of selected notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending<br/>October 14, 1995, and October 15, 1994 (41st Week)

N: Not notifiable U: Unavailable -: no reported cases C.N.M.I.: Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands \*Updated monthly to the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, National Center for Prevention Services, last update September 28, 1995.

						Measle	es (Rube	eola)			Moningooogoal			
Reporting Area	Lyı Dise	me ease	Mal	aria	Indig	enous	Impo	orted*	То	tal	Infections		Mu	mps
	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	1995	Cum. 1995	1995	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994
UNITED STATES	6,638	9,803	967	855	-	247	1	25	272	866	2,365	2,169	629	1,156
NEW ENGLAND	1,587	2,305	38	63	-	6	-	2	8	27	108	101	10	19
N.H.	25 19	25	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	8	4	4
Vt. Mass.	8 154	14 153	1 13	3 29	-	-1	-	- 1	- 2	3 7	8 39	2 45	- 2	- 3
R.I. Conn	285 1.096	347 1.748	4 14	8 16	-	5	-	- 1	5 1	7 4	- 33	- 27	1 2	2
MID. ATLANTIC	4,124	5,891	257	168	-	7	-	5	12	213	276	234	94	93
Upstate N.Y. N.Y. City	2,107 168	3,702 20	53 137	44 61	-	1 2	-	- 3	1 5	18 14	85 39	77 30	24 13	27 7
N.J. Pa	870	1,196	50 17	38	-	4	-	2	6	173	73	52 75	12	13
E.N. CENTRAL	67	471	89	23 92	-	7	1	4	11	102	324	320	116	199
Ohio Ind	45 14	36 15	12 14	15 12	-	1	1	1	2	17 1	96 59	93 41	41 4	52 7
III.	3	23	32	40	-	-	-	2	2	56	71	104	32	92 27
Wis.	5	5 392	18	22	-	4	-	-	5	25	37	47 35	- 39	37 11
W.N. CENTRAL	193 120	248	23	39 12	-	2	-	-	2	170	158	139	30	62
lowa	11	13	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	7	28	12	-	15
Mo. N. Dak.	34	93	/	12	-	-	-	-	-	160	64 1	68 1	22	38
S. Dak. Nebr	- 1	- 3	2	- 4	U	-	U	-	-	- 2	5 14	8 12	-	- 1
Kans.	18	10	3	5	-	1	-	-	1	1	20	20	1	-
S. ATLANTIC Del.	437 7	670 102	205 1	176 3	-	11	-	1	12	65 -	436 6	317 5	90 -	166
Md. D.C	267 2	215 7	55 16	65 12	-	-	-	1	1	4	32 4	28 4	20	50
Va.	47	119	47	27	-	-	-	-	-	3	55	58	20	38
N.C.	22 49	20 72	3 15	10	-	-	-	-	-	37	68	44	16	33
S.C. Ga.	16 13	7 113	1 26	4 29	-	2	-	-	- 2	-3	53 86	22 67	10 8	7 9
Fla.	14	15	41	26	-	9	-	-	9	15	124	77	16	24
E.S. CENTRAL Ky.	41	39 22	20	30 10	-	-	-	-	-	- 28	148	155 34	- 13	20
Tenn. Ala.	20 7	11 6	7 8	10 9	-	-	-	-	-	28	37 34	29 61	-4	7 5
Miss.	5	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	31	9	8
W.S. CENTRAL Ark.	94 5	101 8	49 3	39 3	-	26 2	-	3	29 2	17 1	292 22	256 39	42 3	203 5
La. Okla	4	1	5	7	-	17	-	1	18	1	43 29	31 26	12	24 23
Tex.	42	36	40	23	-	7	-	2	9	15	198	160	27	151
MOUNTAIN Mont	8	14	52 3	27	-	67	-	1	68	164	163 2	143 6	25 1	146
Idaho	-	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	15	3	7
Colo.	-	1	23	11	-	26	-	-	26	19	43	28	2	4
N. Mex. Ariz.	1	5	5 10	3 4	-	30 10	-	1	31 10	- 1	31 51	13 49	N 2	N 95
Utah Nev.	1 2	1 1	6 4	4 2	-	- 1	-	-	- 1	134 9	15 7	18 7	11 6	25 13
PACIFIC	87	64	234	221	-	121	-	9	130	80	460	504	209	248
Wash. Oreg.	10 5	1	19 11	25 14	-	16	-	4 1	20 1	3 2	76 73	75 112	10 N	16 N
Calif. Alaska	72	57	191 3	166	-	105	-	3	108	61 10	299	310	179 13	212
Hawaii	-	-	10	14	-	-	-	1	1	4	4	5	7	17
Guam PR	-	-	- 1	-	U	- 11	U	-	- 11	228 11	3 23	- 7	3 2	6 2
V.I.	-	-	-	-	U	-	U	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
C.N.M.I.	-	-	- 1	-	U		U	-	-	- 29	-	-	-	2

# TABLE II. (Cont'd.) Cases of selected notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending October 14, 1995, and October 15, 1994 (41st Week)

\*For imported measles, cases include only those resulting from importation from other countries.

N: Not notifiable U: Unavailable -: no reported cases

Reporting Area	Reporting Area Pertussis				Rubella		Sypł (Prima Secon	hilis ary & idary)	Tubero	ulosis	Rabies, Animal	
	1995	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	1995	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1995	Cum. 1994
UNITED STATES	95	3,097	3,104	2	119	208	11,734	16,807	15,370	17,239	5,553	6,048
NEW ENGLAND Maine	8	413 28	350 18	-	34 1	128	131 2	173 4	393 12	390 23	1,246 45	1,481
N.H.	3	44	66	-	1	-	1	4	15	13	125	123
Mass.	4	255	190	-	7	124	48	76	217	199	369	566
R.I. Conn.	-	3 22	5 31	-	- 25	2	3 77	12 77	40 106	35 114	269 290	40 640
MID. ATLANTIC	14	269	475	-	12	6	667	1,103	3,199	3,551	1,032	1,615
N.Y. City	2	26	93	-	4	- -	43 318	496	1,692	2,053	392	1,201
N.J. Pa.	- 3	13 93	13 171	-	-	-	136 170	174 290	610 490	615 438	284 356	220 194
E.N. CENTRAL	10	287	460	1	5	9	2,067	2,478	1,506	1,621	70	54
Ind.	-	121	52	- 1	-	-	219	946 199	178	274 146	10	4 12
III. Mich.	2 2	71 64	93 56	-	1 3	1 8	771 232	845 232	743 315	801 354	3 37	18 12
Wis.	-	12	136	-	-	-	136	256	55	46	8	8
W.N. CENTRAL Minn.	4 4	222 122	145 51	-	-	2	618 34	9/1 37	459 106	447 102	266 19	178 14
lowa Mo.	-	1 49	17 39	-	-	- 2	38 509	50 819	48 180	46 197	91 19	72 20
N. Dak. S. Dak	-	8 11	4 16	- U	-	-	-	1 1	3 20	8 21	24 72	10 32
Nebr.	-	9	8	-	-	-	11	11 52	20	16	5	- 20
S. ATLANTIC	- 11	22	281		- 26	- 15	2.996	4.363	02 2.608	3.038	30 1.757	1.596
Del. Md	-	10	2	:		-	14	22	41	36	74	47
D.C.	1	6	8	-	-	-	91	179	86	97	11	2
va. W. Va.	4	-	35	-	-	-	486	639 8	202 58	255 63	350 96	324 61
N.C. S.C.	-	110 22	58 13	-	1	-	894 472	1,348 643	335 253	383 293	390 105	135 147
Ga. Fla.	2	28 68	24 75	-	1 23	2 13	589 304	672 605	326 1.066	534 1.113	228 238	305 135
E.S. CENTRAL	2	258	120	-	-	-	3,029	3,086	1,203	1,229	236	160
Ky. Tenn.	2	16 204	58 19	-	-	-	166 697	164 835	240 336	255 404	24 78	20 34
Ala. Miss.	-	35 3	31 12	- N	N	- N	520 1.646	541 1.546	324 303	346 224	125 9	102 4
W.S. CENTRAL	-	246	178	-	7	13	1,552	3,681	1,960	2,225	524	548
Ark. La.	-	30 15	27 10	-	-	-	82 803	389 1,408	135 6	204 15	21 25	25 62
Okla. Tex.	-	27 174	24 117	-	-7	4 9	151 516	123 1.761	146 1.673	199 1.807	28 450	31 430
MOUNTAIN	11	442	390	-	5	5	201	208	499	426	152	126
Mont. Idaho	-7	3 88	7 45	-	-	-	4	3 1	10 12	9 11	41 3	15 3
Wyo. Colo.	-	1 84	- 189	-	1	-	- 98	1 107	3 37	7 52	22 9	17 12
N. Mex.	3	92 149	20	-	- 3	-	33	18	66 257	43	5	6
Utah	1	20	28	-	1	4	4	11	31	38	15	12
PACIFIC	- 35	5 664	3 705	- 1	- 30	30	28 473	28 744	83 3.543	94 4.312	8 270	9 290
Wash.	3	216	97	-	2	-	12	29	197	211	7	15
Calif.	30	372	503	1	24	22	453	678	3,114	3,758	259	232
Hawaii	- 1	46	16	-	-3	4	-	3 3	59 137	58 195	4	33 -
Guam	U	1	2	U	-	1	8	3	35	69 147	-	- 40
V.I.	U	-	-	U	-	-	245	253	-	-	44 -	-
C.N.M.I.	U	-	-	U	-	-	- 4	1	4 13	4 28	-	-

# TABLE II. (Cont'd.) Cases of selected notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending<br/>October 14, 1995, and October 15, 1994 (41st Week)

U: Unavailable -: no reported cases

	A	II Cau	ses, By	Age (Y	'ears)		₽&I <sup>†</sup>		4	All Cau	ises, B	y Age (Y	'ears)		₽&I <sup>†</sup>
Reporting Area	All Ages	≥65	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	Total	Reporting Area	All Ages	≥65	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	Total
NEW ENGLAND Boston, Mass. Bridgeport, Conn. Cambridge, Mass. Fall River, Mass. Hartford, Conn. Lowell, Mass. Lynn, Mass. New Bedford, Mass. New Haven, Conn. Providence, R.I. Somerville, Mass. Springfield, Mass.	584 147 36 15 32 67 22 14 55 3 44 55 3 46	397 94 27 12 27 37 16 11 17 30 39 2 27 14	109 27 7 1 3 14 5 2 3 6 14 1 1 4 2	48 12 2 10 1 1 2 4 2 - 3 3	11 3 - - 3 - - 3 - -	19 11 3 - - - 1 - 2	30 7 2 2 2 2 3 3 - 2	S. ATLANTIC Atlanta, Ga. Baltimore, Md. Charlotte, N.C. Jacksonville, Fla. Miami, Fla. Norfolk, Va. Richmond, Va. Savannah, Ga. St. Petersburg, Fla. Tampa, Fla. Washington, D.C. Wilmington, Del.	1,220 122 159 122 108 104 39 69 49 62 143 238 5	727 64 85 70 62 55 24 43 36 51 107 126 4	260 32 37 24 28 23 10 13 11 8 24 50	142 15 25 17 11 25 2 7 - 1 8 31	37 65 5 4 - 4 2 1 1 9 -	52 5 7 6 3 1 2 2 5 1 3 22	70 2 13 8 7 3 4 3 5 4 15 6
Worcester, Mass. MID. ATLANTIC Albany, N.Y. Allentown, Pa. Buffalo, N.Y. Camden, N.J. Elizabeth, N.J. Erie, Pa.§	62 2,419 47 15 109 36 28 47	44 1,547 34 13 81 24 16 40	10 477 7 1 15 5 8 6	5 296 4 11 3 3 1	1 51 - 2 3 1	2 47 2 - 1 -	- 6 112 3 - 4 1 1 3	E.S. CENTRAL Birmingham, Ala. Chattanooga, Tenn. Knoxville, Tenn. Lexington, Ky. Memphis, Tenn. Mobile, Ala. Montgomery, Ala. Nashville, Tenn.	800 157 53 73 204 76 53 111	499 97 37 46 38 127 49 36 69	171 29 9 18 24 43 17 10 21	72 14 5 6 7 19 3 3 15	27 8 2 1 - 11 3 2	30 9 2 4 4 2 5	54 3 8 3 17 4 5 11
Jersey City, N.J. New York City, N.Y. Newark, N.J. Paterson, N.J. Philadelphia, Pa. Pittsburgh, Pa.§ Reading, Pa. Rochester, N.Y. Schenectady, N.Y. Scranton, Pa.§ Syracuse, N.Y. Trenton, N.J. Utica, N.Y. Yonkers, N.Y.	52 1,292 66 27 300 33 15 131 27 117 31 31 5 U	29 819 28 13 174 16 6 90 24 25 82 82 21 12 U	13 252 22 5 62 10 6 26 20 10 3 U	8 180 13 6 40 2 2 10 1 2 9 -	1 23 2 - 12 1 1 1 - - 4 - - U	1 18 3 12 4 - 2 - U	52 3 1 18 4 3 2 1 10 4 2 U	W.S. CENTRAL Austin, Tex. Baton Rouge, La. Corpus Christi, Tex. Dallas, Tex. El Paso, Tex. Houston, Tex. Houston, Tex. Little Rock, Ark. New Orleans, La. San Antonio, Tex. Shreveport, La. Tulsa, Okla.	1,415 71 50 177 76 92 315 71 162 188 58 116	900 47 300 22 110 55 62 186 44 102 125 38 79	256 12 5 35 12 11 64 15 26 34 10 27	156 9 8 10 21 5 8 41 8 16 17 7 6	56 2 4 7 3 5 14 2 7 8 2 2	47 1 3 2 4 1 6 10 2 11 4 1 2	85 2 4 3 5 7 5 28 9 10 5 7
E.N. CENTRAL Akron, Ohio Canton, Ohio Cincinnati, Ohio Cleveland, Ohio Cleveland, Ohio Columbus, Ohio Dayton, Ohio Detroit, Mich. Evansville, Ind. Fort Wayne, Ind. Gary, Ind. Grand Rapids, Mich Indianapolis, Ind. Madison, Wis. Milwaukee, Wis. Peoria, III. Rockford, III. South Bend, Ind. Toledo, Ohio Youngstown, Ohio	1,972 56 34 394 84 135 186 96 45 51 8 45 51 8 45 51 8 45 51 8 47 209 60 117 43 44 46 111 U	1,339 42 26 249 54 82 126 67 115 39 40 11 33 133 49 90 34 34 36 82 U	365 10 6 70 199 29 34 26 42 4 26 42 4 4 7 16 5 5 4 23 U	175 3 2 45 9 15 22 3 24 - 2 3 5 18 4 7 1 6 2 4 U	47 	45 1 12 15 3 7 - 1 9 - 1 1 1 3 - U	122 5 29 9 2 12 6 7 3 2 5 8 5 9 4 3 1 12 U	MOUNTAIN Albuquerque, N.M. Colo. Springs, Colo Denver, Colo. Las Vegas, Nev. Ogden, Utah Phoenix, Ariz. Pueblo, Colo. Salt Lake City, Utah Tucson, Ariz. PACIFIC Berkeley, Calif. Fresno, Calif. Glendale, Calif. Honolulu, Hawaii Long Beach, Calif. Pasadena, Calif. Pasadena, Calif. Portland, Oreg. Sacramento, Calif. San Diego, Calif.	870 107 48 105 146 26 179 32 111 116 1,274 27 89 U 67 88 88 U U U 137 171 138 4 38	575 72 32 68 103 19 101 25 75 80 830 18 57 U 43 49 U U 95 112 96	143 15 9 17 26 3 34 21 16 217 3 9 U 14 21 U U 20 35 24 2	$\begin{array}{c} 101 \\ 16 \\ 3 \\ 14 \\ 13 \\ 4 \\ 25 \\ 9 \\ 15 \\ 151 \\ 5 \\ 13 \\ 0 \\ 6 \\ 12 \\ 0 \\ 16 \\ 10 \\ 16 \\ 10 \\ 10 \\ 10 \\ 10 $	33 4 3 3 15 4 1 41 6 U 3 5 U U 1 4 5 2	17 1 3 1 6 2 4 34 1 4 U 1 1 U U 5 4 2	58 2 3 11 5 1 5 3 9 9 112 3 6 U 7 9 U U 4 17 185
W.N. CENTRAL Des Moines, Iowa Duluth, Minn. Kansas City, Kans. Kansas City, Mo. Lincoln, Nebr. Minneapolis, Minn. Omaha, Nebr. St. Louis, Mo. St. Paul, Minn. Wichita, Kans.	755 71 34 19 81 26 178 85 119 73 69	566 58 25 10 56 24 140 59 85 58 51	113 11 6 5 8 27 14 22 12 8	38 1 2 3 4 2 8 7 6 3 2	14 1 - - 4 4 - 4	13 1 2 3 1 2 4	33 6 3 1 7 2 7 6 1	San Frañcisco, Cali San Jose, Calif. Santa Cruz, Calif. Seattle, Wash. Spokane, Wash. Tacoma, Wash. TOTAL	f. 135 151 32 117 64 58 11,309 <sup>11</sup>	77 97 25 76 44 41 7,380	30 29 5 14 7 6 2,111	25 17 2 17 5 7 1,179	2 3 7 1 4 317	1 5 7 - 304	15 15 8 2 676

# TABLE III. Deaths in 121 U.S. cities,\* week ending October 14, 1995 (41st 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.
 <sup>1</sup>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.
 <sup>1</sup>Total includes unknown ages.
 U: Unavailable -: no reported cases

# Update: Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis — Colombia, 1995

During September 1–October 12, 1995, a total of 12,403 patient visits for Venezuelan equine encephalitis (VEE) were reported from La Guajira state, Colombia. The actual number of incident cases, estimated from epidemiologic surveys, may exceed 45,000. This report updates the ongoing investigation of this outbreak (1).

Household surveys in urban areas of Manaure, Maicao, Riohacha, and Uribia during September 26–October 3 indicated an overall attack rate of 18%, ranging from 13% in Riohacha (the largest of the towns) to 57% in Manaure. In 101 patients in Manaure, Maicao, and Riohacha who sought medical care within 3 days of onset of acute febrile illness, the point prevalence of VEE-specific immunoglobulin M antibody was 45%, providing a minimum estimate of the specificity of the clinical case definition. Of the 18 VEE virus strains isolated from humans, three were identified antigenically as IC-subtype viruses, which have been the principal cause of epizootics in northern South America. Partial nucleotide sequencing of the strains indicated they were closely related to strains isolated from Venezuela earlier in 1995.

The outbreak has spread southwest along the coastline at a rate of approximately 3 miles (5 km) each day (Figure 1). In the coastal towns of Manaure, Mayapo, El Pajaro, and Dibulia, entomologic surveys have detected large populations of the vector mosquito *Aedes taeniorhynchus*. The initiation of mosquito-control programs was





<sup>†</sup>Confirmed and unconfirmed cases.

<sup>\*</sup>Confirmed cases.

#### Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis — Continued

followed by declines in emergency department visits for acute febrile illness in Manaure, Maicao, Riohacha, and Uribia. In addition, entomologic surveys indicated 99%–100% declines in *Ae. taeniorhynchus* larval densities after breeding sites were treated with *Bacillus sphaericus* (a larvicide).

In the inland region south of Maicao, the outbreak has extended to the municipality of Riohacha, near El Cerrejon coal mine in Hatonuevo. Surveys in Maicao and the south of La Guajira Department have identified extensive breeding habitats for *Psorophora confinnis* and abundant larvae.

Households in Maicao, Riohacha, and Uribia that had more than one case were studied to determine whether secondary person-to-person transmission had occurred. A secondary case was defined as onset of acute febrile illness 1–5 days after onset of illness in the first case(s) in the household. Primary cases occurring within 5 days of the interview were excluded. The apparent secondary attack rate was 5% (50 of 992).

Public health efforts have focused on limiting the spread of the outbreak from La Guajira peninsula to the Magdalena Valley to the south at passes formed by the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta Mountains (Figure 1). Ongoing active surveillance of all hospitals in La Guajira through October 12 indicated no evidence of human cases in the southern part of the state. Unconfirmed equine cases were reported near Santa Marta, but no human cases acquired in Magdalena have been confirmed. Sporadic equine deaths in Cordoba, Cesar, and Magdalena states have been confirmed serologically as cases of eastern equine encephalitis. In the area beyond the advance of the outbreak (Figure 1), approximately 5000 equines in La Guajira have been vaccinated with TC-83 vaccine; in neighboring Magdalena and Cesar states, 20,000 and 70,000 equines, respectively, have been vaccinated.

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**Editorial Note:** Although the VEE outbreak has spread rapidly through La Guajira, control measures have contained the outbreak within this northern-most state of Colombia, with no evidence of human cases in adjoining Magdalena and Cesar states. Equine vaccination creates an immune barrier against the spread of the virus by removing the most important vertebrate amplifying host from the epizootic transmission cycle. Larvicidal treatment of breeding sites reduces the number of vector mosquitoes, but its continued effectiveness may be difficult to maintain during the wet season—which in La Guajira usually lasts through November.

VEE appeared in Venezuela in April 1995 and spread westward, with the first cases in Colombia recognized in August at the common border of the two countries. The virus most likely was transferred in a viremic equine or human and spread from there to the western coast of La Guajira. Comparisons of viral strains from Colombia and Venezuela indicate a close genetic relation (2).

Because VEE virus has been recovered from pharyngeal cultures in 40% of patients (3) and aerosols of VEE virus have infected laboratory personnel, direct

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### Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis — Continued

human-to-human transmission of VEE virus may be possible. However, it is unknown whether infectious VEE aerosols or respiratory droplets can be produced by infected humans. Human-to-human transmission by mosquitoes may occur during some epidemics, as suggested in previous outbreaks (4); however, the household survey in La Guajira found no evidence of direct person-to-person transmission.

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# Use of Mammography Services by Women Aged ≥65 Years Enrolled in Medicare — United States, 1991–1993

The incidence of invasive breast cancer among women aged  $\geq$ 65 years is twice that among those aged 35–44 years (1), and the death rate from breast cancer is approximately three times higher among women aged  $\geq$ 65 years than among women aged 35–64 years (2). Although routine screening mammography among women aged  $\geq$ 50 years can reduce breast cancer mortality by  $\geq$ 30% by detecting tumors at early, more treatable stages (3), older women are less likely to receive screening mammograms (4). The Health Care Financing Admininistration (HCFA) routinely examines trends in the use of health services by age, race, and sex to monitor access to medical care for Medicare beneficiaries. Using Medicare claims data, HCFA estimated rates of mammography use among women aged  $\geq$ 65 years during 1991–1993. This report presents the findings of this analysis.

Women enrolled in Medicare are eligible for diagnostic and screening mammograms under the Medicare Part B program, which enrolls approximately 96% of U.S. residents aged  $\geq$ 65 years. Biennial screening mammography for women aged  $\geq$ 65 years has been a Medicare benefit since January 1, 1991; previously, only diagnostic mammograms were covered under Medicare Part B. Both screening and diagnostic mammography are reimbursed at 80% of allowed charges after an annual deductible of \$100 for all Part B services.

For this analysis, Medicare claims data for services provided during 1991–1993, were used to calculate annual rates of mammography use for enrolled women aged ≥65 years; age- and race-specific rates also were calculated. Race-specific rates are presented for blacks and whites only because identification of other racial groups is incomplete in the Medicare administrative data system. Because claims are not submitted for the Medicare population enrolled in managed-care plans (approximately 7% in 1993) (5), rates are based on women enrolled in fee-for-service Medicare. Three cohorts of women were established using the Medicare denominator files for 1991, 1992, and 1993. Each annual cohort consisted of approximately 16 million women

### Mammography Services — Continued

(Table 1) who were continuously enrolled in fee-for-service Medicare parts A and B. Women excluded from this analysis were those aged <65 years as of January 1 of the year, those enrolled in a health maintenance organization at any time during the year, and those who died during the year. Rates of mammography use represent the percentage of women in each cohort who had one or more mammograms (screening or diagnostic) during that year. Because providers do not uniformly apply the codes used to bill Medicare for mammograms, Medicare claims cannot reliably distinguish screening and diagnostic mammograms; therefore, both types of mammography are included in this analysis.

During 1991–1993, of each annual cohort of approximately 16 million women aged  $\geq$ 65 years who were continuously enrolled in fee-for-service Medicare, 3.8–4.0 million (approximately 25%) had one or more mammography claims (Table 1). During this period, rates of mammography use varied inversely with age of the beneficiary (Figure 1); in all years, the rate for women aged 80–84 years was less than half that for women aged 65–69 years. For all age groups, black women were less likely than white women to have received mammograms, although this difference declined during each of the 3 years: in 1991, the black-to-white ratio of mammography rates was 0.64:1, compared with 0.71:1 in 1993 (Table 2).

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Editorial Note: The findings in this report are consistent with previous studies that indicate a low rate of mammography use among women aged  $\geq$ 65 years (4). In this analysis, black women and women aged  $\geq$ 85 years were least likely to have received mammograms under Medicare. A national health objective for the year 2000 is to increase to 60% the percentage of women aged  $\geq$ 50 years who received a mammogram and clinical breast examination during the previous 2 years (objective 16.11) (6). Among Medicare beneficiaries, the biennial rate of mammography use for 1992–1993 was 37% for women aged  $\geq$ 65 years (7).

In addition to the patient and physician attributes known to influence screening mammography use (8), three additional factors may explain the low rate of use among this elderly Medicare population. First, for women aged  $\geq$ 75 years, low rates of use may be a consequence of variations in recommendations by professional associations to perform screening mammography for women in this age group (9). Second, for black women, low rates may reflect financial barriers (e.g., the Part B deductible or copayments) and other obstacles in the delivery of health services to women of lower socioeconomic status. Finally, overall low use of mammography by Medicare benificiaries also may reflect limited awareness of this health benefit: in 1992, approximately two thirds of elderly women were unaware that mammography was a Medicare benefit (10).

In response to the low awareness and low use of the Medicare mammography benefit, HCFA has organized multimedia outreach efforts through its national and regional offices. Since May 1995, approximately 50 major organizations have participated in campaigns to publicize mammography as a Medicare benefit; participating organizations have included CDC and other federal agencies, health-care

		1991		1992		1993
Race <sup>§</sup> /Age group (yrs)	No. women in cohort <sup>†</sup>	% Women with ≥1 mammography claim	No. women in cohort	% Women ≥1 mammography claim	No. women in cohort	% Women with ≥1 mammography claim
White						
65–69	3,801,318	34.3	3,702,946	34.4	3,651,436	35.1
70–74	3,428,770	30.4	3,496,483	30.8	3,508,097	31.6
75–79	2,778,679	23.7	2,803,397	24.2	2,805,740	25.0
80–84	1,947,766	15.5	1,982,701	16.0	2,009,368	16.7
≥85	1,677,000	6.4	1,729,097	6.7	1,765,866	7.0
Total	13,633,533	25.0	13,714,624	25.3	13,740,507	25.9
Black						
65–69	340,119	21.1	338,684	22.5	337,010	24.3
70–74	291,684	18.9	298,836	20.1	303,665	21.7
75–79	231,693	15.1	236,692	16.1	233,149	17.4
80–84	154,291	10.7	157,559	11.6	161,218	12.3
≥85	136,148	5.6	141,769	5.8	146,570	6.1
Total	1,153,935	16.1	1,173,540	17.1	1,181,612	18.4
All races <sup>¶</sup>						
65–69	4,455,911	33.0	4,395,045	33.1	4,362,734	33.9
70–74	3,923,110	29.3	4,014,482	29.8	4,051,938	30.6
75–79	3,151,318	22.9	3,188,427	23.5	3,192,607	24.3
80-84	2,190,889	15.1	2,234,131	15.6	2,269,042	16.3
≥85	1,869,301	6.3	1,930,032	6.6	1,976,235	6.9
Total	15,590,529	24.3	15,762,117	24.6	15,852,556	25.2

\*Enrollees in Medicare parts A and B who were not in health maintenance organizations and who were aged ≥65 years as of January 1 and alive on December 31 of the indicated year. <sup>†</sup>For a screening or diagnostic mammogram. Because Medicare providers do not uniformly apply the codes used to bill Medicare for mammograms, Medicare claims cannot reliably distinguish screening and diagnostic mammograms. <sup>§</sup>Identification of races other than white and black is incomplete in the Medicare administrative data system.

<sup>¶</sup>Includes women of other and unknown race.

### Mammography Services - Continued

FIGURE 1. Percentage of women aged  $\geq$ 65 years who were enrolled in Medicare\* and who had one or more mammography claims<sup>†</sup> during the calendar year, by age group and year – United States, 1991–1993



 \*Enrollees in Medicare parts A and B who were not in health maintenance organizations and who were aged ≥65 years as of January 1 and alive on December 31 of the indicated year.
 <sup>†</sup>For a screening or diagnostic mammogram. Because Medicare providers do not uniformly apply the codes used to bill Medicare for mammograms, Medicare claims cannot relably distinguish screening and diagnostic mammograms.

Age group (yrs)	1991	1992	1993
65–69	0.62:1	0.66:1	0.69:1
70–74	0.62:1	0.65:1	0.69:1
75–79	0.63:1	0.67:1	0.69:1
80–84	0.69:1	0.72:1	0.74:1
≥85	0.88:1	0.86:1	0.88:1
Total	0.64:1	0.68:1	0.71:1

TABLE 2. Black-to-white ratio of mammography rates\* for women aged  $\geq$ 65 years who were enrolled in Medicare<sup>†</sup>, by age group and year — United States, 1991–1993

\*Rates are for diagnostic and screening mammography. Because Medicare providers do not uniformly apply the codes used to bill Medicare for mammograms, Medicare claims cannot reliably distinguish screening and diagnostic mammograms.

<sup>†</sup>Enrollees in Medicare parts Ă and B who were not in health maintenance organizations and who were aged ≥65 years as of January 1 and alive on December 31 of the indicated year.

## Mammography Services - Continued

provider associations, senior citizen groups, voluntary organizations, major corporations, and trade associations. These outreach efforts also are being promoted during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October. In addition to informational efforts aimed at elderly women enrolled in Medicare and their families, county-level and race-specific annual and biennial mammography rates were made available to local and national health organizations to assist in developing interventions to increase mammography use (7).

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# Notice to Readers

# Availability of Information on Cryptosporidiosis

CDC now has a voice-fax cryptosporidiosis information telephone system. Callers can listen to recorded messages on cryptosporidiosis and order printed materials, designed for different audiences, by fax. One of the items available is a multipage fact sheet designed specifically for persons who have human immunodeficiency virus infection or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome. The telephone number is (404) 330-1242.

Many of the materials available from the information line are also available from the National Center for Infectious Diseases on the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/crypto/crypto.htm.

## Erratum: Vol. 44, No. 28

For the article, "Pneumonia and Influenza Death Rates—United States, 1979–1994," reexamination of the database detected an error in the age-adjustment procedure used to calculate the weekly mean pneumonia and influenza (P&I) death rates for non-influenza periods. The following corrected paragraph replaces the first paragraph on page 536:

"To control for the highly variable seasonal contribution of influenza-associated deaths, the trend for mean weekly number of P&I deaths for the noninfluenza period (weeks 26–39) was analyzed. From 1979 through 1992, age-adjusted P&I death rates during these weeks increased from 3.1 to 3.7 per 1 million population. Analysis of P&I deaths listed in any position on the death certificate (multiple-cause-of-death data) indicated a similar increase."

## Erratum: Vol. 44, No. RR-12

In the *MMWR Recommendations and Reports* "Recommendations for Preventing the Spread of Vancomycin Resistance: Recommendations of the Hospital Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC)," the publication date printed at the top of even-numbered pages ii–12 should have been September 22, 1995.

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