AUSTRALIA
Communicable Diseases Intelligence

Bulletin Number 78/10
Reporting Period 4 May 1978 to 17 May 1978

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CASE OF TYPHOID IN N.S.W. (contributed by the Bacteriology Department, Institute of Clinical Pathology & Medical Research, Sydney)

On 10 May 1978, a district hospital in the western suburbs of Sydney referred to the ICP & MR a bacterial culture which had been isolated from the blood of Mrs X, aged 72 years. This culture was confirmed as Salmonella typhi and the patient was then transferred to Prince Henry Hospital in Sydney.

Mrs X had been admitted to the district hospital on 5 May 1978. She stated that she had been in good health until 6-8 weeks previously when she developed severe headache, upset stomach, diarrhoea and fever. About 4 weeks before she became ill, Mrs X spent 2 days visiting a friend, Mrs Y, aged 60, and her mother Mrs Z, aged 83, in a N.S.W. country town. Specimens of faeces were collected and examined from Mrs Y and Mrs Z. S. typhi was isolated from both Mrs Y and Mrs Z. It was ascertained that Mrs Z had had typhoid fever 60 years ago.

This is a preliminary report only, and a more complete report will be made when bacteriological and epidemiological investigations under way have been completed.

EPIDEMIC POLYARTHRITIS (contributed by the staff of the State Health Laboratory, Brisbane)

Serological results indicate that the annual epidemic of polyarthritis due to Ross River virus peaked in March-April. In this issue, 36 patients from all over Queensland have been reported. Most were diagnosed by the presence of IgM and a history of polyarthritis and the great majority were in the 25-59 age group.

HYGIENE IN INTERNATIONAL AVIATION

The magnitude of air transport operations grows steadily every year. For example, the number of passengers on scheduled international and domestic flights around the world rose from 177 million in 1965 to 438 million in 1975. These figures do not take into account the millions of charter-flight passengers whose numbers also continue to increase. (W.E.R. No.13 31 March 1978)

Because of increases not only in the speed of travel but also in the number of people carried on each flight, essential services such as catering, water supply, and waste disposal are often strained, especially in areas where the level of sanitation is low. In these areas, there is a definite risk of contaminated food and water being taken aboard the plane, and a number of disease outbreaks have been

The Bulletin is compiled and distributed by the Environmental Health Branch, Department of Health, P.O. Box 100, Woden, A.C.T. 2606, Australia, and is available on request. Contributions are solicited, and do not preclude later publication elsewhere. Material appearing in the Bulletin may be quoted provided suitable acknowledgement is made.

reported to the WHO in recent years. The organisms involved have included S. aureus (247 passengers on three separate flights in 1973 all fed on the same custard), S. typhimurium (200 cases in 1976 in passengers who consumed egg-mayonnaise salad on a flight) and V. cholerae (40 mild cases in a flight entering Australia in 1972 attributed to food).

The need to protect air travellers from such hazards and the potential for infected passengers to act as disease foci in the country of disembarkation have stimulated concern within the World Health Organisation. WHO has therefore recommended that public health authorities and airline companies give attention to the problem, and has revised its code of practice on food hygiene in air transport. (Bailey J. Guide to Hygiene and Sanitation in Aviation W.H.O. 1976)

In Australia, action has been taken by the Australian Departments of Health and of Science, with the co-operation of the airlines to monitor bacterial contamination of water and food on flights entering the country. Samples are taken from aircraft on arrival at Sydney airport.

Sampling of water was started in the middle of 1977. Since then 230 samples from various parts of the plane such as galleys & drinking fountains have been analysed for coliform and E. coli contamination. The standard for contamination used has been that of WHO, which defines potable water as containing less than 10 coliforms per 100 ml, and less than 1 E. coli per 100 ml. (using MPN techniques). 13 of the samples failed to meet the standard for coliforms, but in only 2 of these were E. coli present. The airlines were advised in each case but in only 3 cases have the results of their investigations been made known to the Commonwealth Department of Health.

Food surveillance did not commence until April 1978. The sampling procedure samples flights, from which one complete meal is then taken, and each component of this meal is subject to bacteriological analysis. No results of the food sampling are available for publication at this stage.

BRONCHIOLITIS IN BRISBANE (contributed by the staff of the State Health Laboratory, Brisbane)

In late April and early May, respiratory syncytial virus was isolated from 19 children and 2 adults with bronchiolitis. Good correlation between isolation results and the rapid fluorescent antibody test has been obtained on those patients from whom a nasopharyngeal aspirate was collected.

HEPATITIS B SURVEY

The increased number of Hepatitis B cases by the I.M.V.S. in Adelaide represents a survey of Vietnamese refugees entering Australia. In all, 132 identifications were made.

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VIRAL IDENTIFICATIONS FROM CONTRIBUTING LABORATORIES

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	ICPMR (NSW)/ WVH (ACT)	RAHC (NSW)	PHH/ POW (NSW)	FAIR-FIELD (VIC)	RCH (VIC)	IMVS (SA)	STATE LAB (QLD)	STATE LAB (WA)	TOTAL
0100 ADENOVIRUS NOT TYPED	-	-	-	3	6	-	2	4	15
0101 ADENOVIRUS TYPE 1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
0102 ADENOVIRUS TYPE 2	1	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	4
0103 ADENOVIRUS TYPE 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
0106 ADENOVIRUS TYPE 6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
0107 ADENOVIRUS TYPE 7	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	4
0109 ADENOVIRUS TYPE 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
0119 ADENOVIRUS TYPE 19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
0199 ADENOVIRUS TYPING PENDING	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	7
0201 INFLUENZA A VIRUS	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
0203 INFLUENZA B VIRUS	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
0301 PARAINFLUENZA VIRUS TYPE 1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
0302 PARAINFLUENZA VIRUS TYPE 2	-	-	-	1	5	1	3	1	11
0303 PARAINFLUENZA VIRUS TYPE 3	-	-	-	-	1	4	2	3	10
0400 RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RS)	-	-	-	-	-	1	13	-	14
0500 RHINOVIRUS (ALL TYPES)	-	-	-	5	3	-	2	-	10
0600 MYCOPLASMA PNEUMONIAE	8	1	-	4	-	-	3	1	17
0700 ORNITHOSIS-PSITTACOSIS	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
0816 COXSACKIEVIRUS A16	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
0901 COXSACKIEVIRUS B1	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	5
0902 COXSACKIEVIRUS B2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
0903 COXSACKIEVIRUS B3	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
0904 COXSACKIEVIRUS B4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
0905 COXSACKIEVIRUS B5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1000 ECHOVIRUS NOT TYPED	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	6
1006 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 6	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	3
1007 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 7	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
1011 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 11	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
1015 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 15	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
1017 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 17	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1018 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 18	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
1019 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 19	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	5
1022 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 22	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
1023 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
1024 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1

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VIRAL IDENTIFICATIONS FROM CONTRIBUTING LABORATORIES - CONTINUED

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	ICPMR (NSW)/ WVH (ACT)	RAHC (NSW)	PHH/ POW (NSW)	FAIR-FIELD (VIC)	RCH (VIC)	IMVS (SA)	STATE LAB (QLD)	STATE LAB (WA)	TOTAL
1030 ECHOVIRUS TYPE 30	-	-	-	8	-	-	1	-	9
1103 POLIOVIRUS TYPE 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
1200 MUMPS VIRUS	5	-	-	3	-	1	2	-	11
1300 HERPES VIRUS GROUP-NOT TYPED	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	3	7
1301 HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS-NOT TYPED	9	-	4	3	2	-	12	1	31
1302 EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS (EB VIRUS)	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	-	8
1303 VARICELLA-ZOSTER VIRUS	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	4
1306 HERPES SIMPLEX TYPE 1	8	-	-	15	-	12	-	7	42
1307 HERPES SIMPLEX TYPE 2	13	-	-	-	-	18	-	18	49
1401 COXIELLA BURNETI	20	-	-	-	-	1	15	-	36
1514 MOLLUSCUM CONTAGIOSUM	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
1521 MEASLES VIRUS	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
1522 RUBELLA VIRUS	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
1530 HEPATITIS A VIRUS	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1532 HEPATITIS B ANTIGEN	5	-	29	26	-	29	6	6	101
1533 HEPATITIS B ANTIBODY	-	-	-	-	-	104	5	13	122
1535 HEPATITIS A ANTIBODY	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1541 CHLAMYDIA A - TRIC TYPE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12
1556 CMV - CYTOMEGALOVIRUS	3	-	-	4	1	4	5	1	18
1562 REOVIRUS (ALL TYPES)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
1562 CORONAVIRUS	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1564 ROTAVIRUS	-	-	-	5	-	8	-	5	18
1566 NORWALK AGENT	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
1599 ENTEROVIRUS TYPING PENDING	3	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	14
TOTAL	90	4	39	98	33	207	88	87	646

ROSS RIVER VIRUS	36		36
MURRAY VALLEY ENCEPHALITIS	1		1
ASTROVIRUS	2		2

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VIRAL IDENTIFICATIONS CATEGORISED INTO SOURCE SPECIMENS

	VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	FA	BL	NA	CS	SK	EY	UR	BR	GE	OT	TOTAL
0100	ADENOVIRUS NOT TYPED	6	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
0101	ADENOVIRUS TYPE 1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
0102	ADENOVIRUS TYPE 2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
0103	ADENOVIRUS TYPE 3	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
0106	ADENOVIRUS TYPE 6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
0107	ADENOVIRUS TYPE 7	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
0109	ADENOVIRUS TYPE 9	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
0119	ADENOVIRUS TYPE 19	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
0199	ADENOVIRUS TYPING PENDING	3	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6
0201	INFLUENZA A VIRUS	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
0203	INFLUENZA B VIRUS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
0301	PARAINFLUENZA VIRUS TYPE 1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
0302	PARAINFLUENZA VIRUS TYPE 2	-	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
0303	PARAINFLUENZA VIRUS TYPE 3	-	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
0400	RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RS)	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
0500	RHINOVIRUS (ALL TYPES)	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
0600	MYCOPLASMA PNEUMONIAE	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
0700	ORNITHOSIS-PSITTACOSIS	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
0816	COXSACKIEVIRUS A16	1	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	6
0901	COXSACKIEVIRUS B1	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	5
0902	COXSACKIEVIRUS B2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
0903	COXSACKIEVIRUS B3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
0904	COXSACKIEVIRUS B4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
0905	COXSACKIEVIRUS B5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1000	ECHOVIRUS NOT TYPED	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
1006	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 6	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
1007	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 7	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
1011	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 11	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
1015	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 15	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1017	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 17	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1018	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 18	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1019	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 19	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
1022	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 22	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1023	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 23	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
1024	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 24	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1030	ECHOVIRUS TYPE 30	2	-	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	11

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VIRAL IDENTIFICATIONS CATEGORISED INTO SOURCE SPECIMENS - CONTINUED

	VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	FA	BL	NA	CS	SK	EY	UR	BR	GE	OT	TOTAL
1103	POLIOVIRUS TYPE 3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1200	MUMPS VIRUS	-	5	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
1300	HERPES VIRUS GROUP-NOT TYPED	-	3	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	7
1301	HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS-NOT TYPED	-	4	3	4	8	2	-	-	9	-	30
1302	EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS (EB VIRUS)	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
1303	VARICELLA-ZOSTER VIRUS	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	4
1306	HERPES SIMPLEX TYPE 1	-	-	11	-	16	6	-	-	9	-	42
1307	HERPES SIMPLEX TYPE 2	-	1	-	-	18	-	-	-	31	-	50
1401	COXIELLA BURNETI	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
1514	MOLLUSCUM CONTAGIOSUM	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
1521	MEASLES VIRUS	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
1522	RUBELLA VIRUS	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
1530	HEPATITIS A VIRUS	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1532	HEPATITIS B ANTIGEN	-	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
1533	HEPATITIS B ANTIBODY	-	122	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	122
1535	HEPATITIS A ANTIBODY	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1541	CHLAMYDIA A - TRIC TYPE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	12
1556	CMV - CYTOMEGALOVIRUS	-	9	3	-	-	-	4	-	1	1	18
1562	REOVIRUS (ALL TYPES)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1564	ROTAVIRUS	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
1566	NORWALK AGENT	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1599	ENTEROVIRUS TYPING PENDING	3	-	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
TOTAL		55	321	106	27	52	13	6	-	62	2	644
	ROSS RIVER VIRUS		36									36
	MURRAY VALLEY ENCEPHALITIS		1									1
	ASTROVIRUS	2										2

COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN THE STATES AND TERRITORIES OF AUSTRALIA

Cases reported during the week ended, 21. 4. '78

LIST A. Communicable diseases notified by medical practitioners, hospitals or diagnostic laboratories

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED DURING WEEK								CUMULATIVE TOTAL - year to date*							
	N.S.W.	VIC.	QLD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	A.C.T.	N.T.	N.S.W.	VIC.	QLD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	A.C.T.	N.T.
ACUTE RHEUMATISM (including Chorea)	N.N.				N.N.	N.N.			N.N.				N.N.	N.N		5
ANTHRAX																
BRUCELLOSIS									9	3	1	5				
CHOLERA																
DIARRHOEA, INFANTILE	7	N.N.			N.N.	N.N.			79	N.N.			N.N.	N.N	3	
DIPHTHERIA								8								245
DYSENTERY, BACILLARY (clinical diagnosis only)	N.N.					N.N.			N.N.	10			45	N.N		
ENCEPHALITIS (not included under B)						N.N.		4	1	3	2			N.N		30
FOOD POISONING (occuring in 2 or more associated cases)			N.N.	N.N.	N.N.		N.N.		92	2	N.N.	N.N.	N.N.		N.N.	
GONORRHOEA	47	51		24	8	1			1262	721		616	417	73	74	226
HEPATITIS, INFECTIVE (icteric form only)	10	6	21	1	5	2	4	11	356	* 194	163	31	110	31	21	17
HEPATITIS, SERUM (homologous)	4	7	3	5				2	63	78	37	34	9		2	1
LEPROSY					1				2	1	7		7			
LEPTOSPIROSIS			2								4		1			
PARATYPHOID FEVER		N.N.							2	N.N.						
PLAGUE																
POLIOMYELITIS																
PUERPERAL FEVER	N.N.								N.N.				2			3
RUBELLA	N.N.	1			N.N.	N.N.			N.N.	15		1	N.N.	N.N		
SCARLET FEVER	N.N.				1	N.N.			N.N.	9			1	N.N		
SMALLPOX																
SYPHILIS	13			10	5			11	229	29		68	103		1	183
TETANUS		1							3	2	2					
TRACHOMA		N.N.	N.N.		N.N.					N.N.	N.N.		N.N.			1
TUBERCULOSIS (all forms)	25	5	1		3				156	93	53	25	54	7	3	5
TYPHOID FEVER									3	2		1				
TYPHUS																
YELLOW FEVER																

21. 4. '78

LIST B COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND AGENTS NOTIFIED AFTER HOSPITAL AND LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS

DISEASES	CASES NOTIFIED DURING WEEK								CUMULATIVE TOTAL - year to date*							
	N.S.W.	VIC.	QLD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	A.C.T.	N.T.	N.S.W.	VIC.	QLD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	A.C.T.	N.T.
AMOEBIASIS	N.N.								N.N.	1	2		2			
ANKYLOSTOMIASIS	N.N.								N.N.				3			*61
ARBO VIRUS INFECTION			N.N.		N.N.						N.N.		N.N.			
DENGUE					N.N.					1			N.N.			
MURRAY VALLEY ENCEPHALITIS			N.N.	N.N.	N.N.		N.N.				N.N.	N.N.	N.N.		N.N.	
OTHER (STATE TYPE)				N.N.	N.N.		N.N.					N.N.	N.N.		N.N.	
HYDATID									2	1		1				
MALARIA	1		3		2		2		15	16	23	5	11		7	1
ORNITHOSIS (PSITTACOSIS, etc)												10				
Q. FEVER			39				N.N.		9	7	100	112			N.N.	
SALMONELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)	57	4	2	4	3	3	5	2	513	59	53	14	83	12	13	39
SHIGELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)	N.N.			1				4	N.N.		37	1			1	69

N.N. - NOT NOTIFIABLE
* - INCLUDES ADJUSTMENTS FOR REVISED DIAGNOSIS OR OTHER AMENDMENT.
QLD. (+) - MONTHLY NOTIFICATION OF GONORRHOEA AND SYPHILLIS.

Director-General of Health