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NATIONAL MICROBIOLOGICAL LABORATORY REPORTING SERVICE

BULLETIN 8

8-21 April 1977

4 JUL 1977
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

We welcome the Department of Microbiology, State Health Laboratory Services, Perth, as a new participating laboratory.

Several readers have asked for explanations of the abbreviations used on the tables. These are listed below, and the list will be repeated from time to time as long as the bulletin is prepared from typescript. As soon as circulation justifies it, we do plan to have the bulletin printed, and then there should be no need for abbreviations.

The laboratory codes are:

ICPMR	Institute of Clinical Pathology and Medical Research, Lidcombe.
RAHC	Royal Alexander Hospital for Children, Camperdown.
PHH/POW	Prince Henry/Prince of Wales Hospital Group, Sydney.
FAIRFIELD	Fairfield Hospital
RCH	Royal Children's Hospital, Parkville
IMVS	Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, Adelaide
STATE LAB	State Health Laboratory Services, Perth.

The source of specimen codes are:

FA	faeces/rectal swab
BL	blood/serum
NA	nasopharyngeal swab or aspirate
CS	cerebrospinal fluid
SK	skin
EY	eye
UR	urine
BR	bronchial washings or aspirate
GE	genital swab
OT	other

Outbreak of diarrhoea in neonates (supplied by Fairfield)

Rotavirus was demonstrated by electron microscopy in the faeces of 7 babies from a neonatal nursery of a city hospital, where an outbreak of mild diarrhoea had occurred. 18 other babies in the nursery were not affected.

Para-influenza virus type 2 (supplied by RCH)

After a period with relatively little para-influenza virus type 2 infections at Melbourne R.C.H. the past 6 weeks has shown an upturn. This virus was detected in 13 patients, 9 by isolation and fluorescence and a further 4 by fluorescence only.

The increased sensitivity of diagnosis by FA may reflect inferent greater sensitivity but as some batches of primary monkey kidney contained 'foamy agent' it is possible that the lower isolation success was associated with poor MK.

Hepatitis B in Adelaide (supplied by IMVS)

Still more cases with hepatitis B antigen and antibody are being found among the group of IV drug users referred to in Bulletin 6.

Food poisoning on international aircraft due to non-cholera vibrio (supplied by Dr Ross Sutton)

On 30 March an aircraft arrived at Sydney International Airport with 23 ill passengers on board. The aircraft had flown to Australia from Amsterdam, stopping at Zurich, Dubai and Singapore. In addition 32 passengers who left the aircraft at Singapore were subsequently found to have a similar illness.

The passengers had become ill during flight. The onset of illness was very sudden, at times explosive, and in most cases symptoms were vomiting, nausea, diarrhoea and severe abdominal pain. Mean incubation period for the illness was calculated as being approximately 6 to 8 hours.

Stool specimens examined at the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and at the Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney, indicated that a non-cholera vibrio was the cause of the infection. No other pathogens were isolated and tests on vomitus for staphylococcus enterotoxin were negative.

The organism of the same serotype was isolated from a chicken roll served on the aircraft. Epidemiologic evidence obtained by direct interview and by questionnaires sent to all passengers also incriminated the chicken roll.

This outbreak adds to the increasing evidence that vibrio species other than V.cholera may cause severe gastro-enteritis and should always be considered when making a diagnosis of such illness among persons recently returned from Asia and the Middle East.

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PERIOD 8
 DATES 8-21 April 1977

LABORATORY

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	SYDNEY			MELBOURNE		ADELAIDE	PERTH STATE LAB.	TOTAL
	ICPMR	RAHC	PHH/POW	FAIR- FIELD	RCH	IMVS		
0100 Adenovirus not typed	1				2	5		8
0101 " type 1				1		1		2
0102 " " 2			3				1	4
0103 " " 3		1		1				2
0104 " " 4		1						1
0107 " " 7			1					1
0108 " " 8				9				9
0201 Influenza A virus							1	1
0203 " B "				1				1
0301 Parainfluenza virus type 1				2	7	2		11
0302 " " " 2					9	7		16
0303 " " " 3					1	1		2
0400 Respiratory syncytial virus (RS)		2		1	1			4
0500 Rhinovirus (all types)				2	6			8
0600 Mycoplasma pneumoniae	4			1		1	1	7
0700 Ornithosis-psittacosis						1		1
0809 Coxsackievirus A9						1	4	5
0902 " B2						2		2
0904 " B4			3			1	1	5
0905 " B5			9				2	11
1000 Echovirus not typed						2		2
1001 " type 1			1					1
1002 " " 2			1					1
1006 " " 6				3				3
1009 " " 9				1				1

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LABORATORY

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	SYDNEY			MELBOURNE		ADELAIDE	PERTH STATE LAB.	TOTAL
	ICPMR	RAHC	PHH/POW	FAIR- FIELD	RCH	IMVS		
1012 Echovirus type 12			1					1
1014 " " 14		1	2					3
1017 " " 17				2				2
1018 " " 18		3						3
1019 " " 19				10		1	1	12
1033 " " 33			2					2
1102 Poliovirus type 2							1	1
1104 " vaccinal strain							1	1
1200 Mumps virus	1	2		1				4
1300 Herpes virus not typed				1				1
1301 " simplex virus - not typed		2	3	1	4	1		11
1302 Epstein-Barr virus (EB virus)				1				1
1303 Varicella-Zoster virus	2					1		3
1306 Herpes simplex type 1 (oral)	2			9		5		16
1307 " " " 2 (genital)				6		6	2	14
1401 Coxiella burneti	23							23
1521 Measles virus	1							1
1522 Rubella virus				1			1	2
1532 Hepatitis B antigen			9	27		6	6	48
1533 " B antibody						25	6	31
1543 LGV - Lymphogranuloma venereum	2							2
1556 CMV - cytomegalovirus	8				2	1	5	16

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VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	SYDNEY			MELBOURNE		ADELAIDE	PERTH STATE LAB.	TOTAL
	ICPMR	RAHC	PHH/POW	FAIR- FIELD	RCH	IMVS		
1562 Reovirus (all types)				1				1
1563 Coronavirus						1		1
1564 Rotavirus						7		7
TOTAL TYPED VIRUSES	44	12	35	82	32	78	33	316
0199 Adenovirus type pending					2			
0399 Parainfluenza virus type pending					4	6		
1099 Echovirus type pending		3						
1399 Herpes virus type pending							4	
1599 Enterovirus type pending					5			

Date: 8-21 April 1977

SOURCE OF SPECIMEN

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	FA	BL	NA	CS	SK	EY	UR	GE	BR	OT	TOTAL
0100 Adenovirus not typed	3	2	3	1							9
0101 " type 1			1							1	2
0102 " " 2	3							1			4
0103 " " 3			2								2
0104 " " 4			1								1
0107 " " 7	1										1
0108 " " 8						9					9
0201 Influenza A virus		1									1
0203 " B virus			1								2
0301 Parainfluenza virus type 1	3		11								14
0302 " " " 2	1		16								17
0303 " " " 3			2								2
0400 Respiratory syncytial virus (RS)			4								4
0500 Rhinovirus (all types)			8	1							9
0600 Mycoplasma pneumoniae		6									6
0700 Ornithosis-psittacosis		1									1
0809 Coxsackievirus A9	5		2								7
0902 " B2		2									2
0904 " B4	3	2									5
0905	10		1								11
1000 Echovirus not typed	2										2
1001 " type 1	1										1
1002 " " 2	1										1
1006 " " 6	1		2								3
1009 " " 9				1							1

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SOURCE OF SPECIMEN

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	SOURCE OF SPECIMEN										TOTAL	
	FA	BL	NA	CS	SK	EY	UR	GE	BR	OT		
1012 Echovirus type 12	1											1
1014 " " 14	2		1									3
1017 " " 17			1	1								2
1018 " " 18			3									3
1019 " " 19	3	2	2	5								12
1033 " " 33	2											2
1102 Poliovirus type 2	1											1
1104 " - vaccinal strain	1											1
1200 Mumps virus		1	1	2								4
1300 Herpes virus not typed					1							1
1301 " simplex virus - not typed		2	4	1	3	2		1		2		15
1302 Epstein-Barr virus (EB virus)		1										1
1303 Varicella-Zoster virus		2			1							3
1306 Herpes simplex type 1 (oral)		2	5		6			1		2		16
1307 " " " 2 (genital)					2			10		2		14
1401 Coxiella burneti		23										23
1521 Measles virus		1										1
1522 Rubella virus		2										2
1532 Hepatitis B antigen		48										48
1533 " B antibody		31										31
1543 LGV - Lymphogranuloma venereum		2										2
1556 CMV - cytomegalovirus		11					4			1		16

