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WA100/19382

NATIONAL MICROBIOLOGICAL LABORATORY REPORTING SERVICE

BULLETIN 18

26 August-8 September 1977

HAND, FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (contributed by W.A. State Health Laboratory Services)

There has been an extensive outbreak of hand, foot and mouth disease in the metropolitan area of Perth. Clinical reports are numerous and have been received from kindergartens and primary state schools throughout the metropolitan suburbs.

The 16 specimens which have been received represent a very small proportion of the cases recognised clinically. To 30 August, Coxsackie A16 had been isolated from 8 specimens. It is interesting to note that the growth of the virus in tissue culture has been very slow.

SALMONELLA CHESTER (contributed by W.A. State Health Laboratory Services)

As previously reported, an outbreak of Salmonella chester has occurred in metropolitan Perth. There were approximately 150 index cases presenting in the months of March through to July. There were no new cases other than contacts of original cases during August.

Examination of a large number of foodstuffs has resulted in the isolation of Salmonella chester from only one area of significance and that has been in pet meats produced by a single firm. Although a variety of different animal carcasses have been used in this factory, the three types of carcass probably involved have been kangaroo, horse and donkey.

The factory distributes throughout the metropolitan area and although it is only surmise at this stage, the association of pets in the household where index cases had occurred has been established in some 60% of instances.

U.S. OUTBREAK OF SALMONELLA NEWPORT TRANSMITTED BY PRE-COOKED BEEF

A further note on this outbreak appears in MMWR of 2 September.

S. TYPHIMURIUM INFECTION (contributed by the staff of Fairfield Hospital and the M.D.U., Melbourne)

10 patients were admitted to Fairfield Hospital suffering from gastroenteritis, between 24 and 48 hours after eating chicken curry. A total of 50 guests shared this meal. 8 of these patients presented, on admission, with signs suggesting dehydration. Biochemical studies (low potassium and bicarbonate values, and raised urea concentrations and packed-cell volumes) confirmed that this was so in 6 of these.

Salmonella typhimurium was recovered from the faeces of all 10 patients and from the blood of two patients (aged 2½ and 27 years) with septicaemia.

The method of preparation of this chicken curry merits fuller description: twelve chickens were cut into pieces on the 2nd August and left at room temperature until midday on the 24th when they were fried in spices and juices for half an hour and then "cooked" in the oven for 15 minutes. Next, they were taken out of the oven, kept at room temperature until 9.00 p.m. (24th) when they were "gently heated" before being served.

Symptoms began in the majority of patients after only 12 hours and the first case was admitted to the wards at 5.30 a.m. 26th August.

PARVOVIRUS GASTROENTERITIS (contributed by the staff of the I.C.P.M.R. (Sydney))

An outbreak of acute non-bacterial gastroenteritis occurred in a public school on the south western outskirts of Sydney during August. Two hundred children and nine teachers developed symptoms. A parvovirus-like particle was found in 13 of 17 faecal specimens examined by electron microscopy. Antibodies have been demonstrated in one "convalescent" blood specimen by I.E.M. Further "acute" and "convalescent" specimens are being tested.

No other cause for the outbreak could be found in spite of exhaustive chemical bacteriological and virological investigations.

PENICILLIN RESISTANT GONORRHEA

The emergence of penicillin resistant strains of *N. gonorrhoeae* has occurred only in the last few years, and it wasn't until the beginning of 1976 that these organisms first appeared in the United States. Although there was a flourish of cases in the United States and the United Kingdom in 1976, the number of isolates in these countries in 1977 declined, possibly because of the effective use of spectinomycin. The

disease however, appears to be spreading in many less developed countries.

The following is the number of cases reported in Australia up to the beginning of September 1977:

N.S.W.	14
VIC.	10
W.A.	4
A.C.T.	4
S.A.	3
TAS.	1
QLD and N.T.	Nil

Of the 36 cases, 11 were known to originate in the Phillipines and 4 in Bangkok. Information on the remainder is not available to date.

CORRECTION

The returns of notifiable diseases for Tasmania in the week ending 19 August 1977, published in Bulletin 17, should be amended as follows:

Current week

Hepatitis, infective - 3 should be 4
Hepatitis, serum - 4 should be nil

Cumulative total

Gonorrhoea - 1 should be 101
Hepatitis, infective - 101 should be 112
Hepatitis, serum - 112 should be nil

INFLUENZA (contributed by Fairfield Hospital)

During the past two weeks three more cases of influenza have been diagnosed at Fairfield Hospital.

So far this year there have been sporadic isolations (15) of Influenza A virus from patients scattered throughout the Melbourne metropolitan area, at least 3 strains of the virus have been demonstrated. One isolate was found to be similar to Influenza A/Texas/1/77 while the remainder have been evenly distributed between those most like Influenza A/Vic/3/75, the 1976 epidemic strain, and A/Vic/112/76, which was first isolated at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, towards the end of the 1976 influenza epidemic.

Included in this last fortnight was an isolate of Influenza A virus from an elderly female patient in a geriatric

hospital. In a ward of 24 women, 6 became ill with fever and minimal chest signs and there was one death.

ROTAVIRUS (contributed by Fairfield Hospital)

There has been little evidence of rotavirus gastro-enteritis at Fairfield Hospital to date this winter. Excluding the outbreak in a neonatal nursery at another hospital, already reported in N.M.L.R.S. Bulletin Nos. 8 and 10, rotavirus has been seen by electron microscopy in faecal specimens from 17 patients and 10 of these have been received in the last fortnight. There were no cases of severe diarrhoea associated with rotavirus infection. One patient was a 15 year old girl, who had 1+ viral particles seen in a concentrated faecal specimen and had been in contact with her 2 months old niece.

INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS AMONGST AUSTRALIAN TROOPS IN CANADA

An initial report on an outbreak of a influenza-like illness among Australian troops recently arrived in Canada, and some secondary and tertiary cases, is in "Canada Diseases Weekly Report" of 27 August. We hope to have a full report on this in the next Bulletin.

PERIOD 18
 DATES 26. 8. '77 to 8. 9. '77

LABORATORY

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	BRISBANE STATE LAB.	SYDNEY/CANBERRA			MELBOURNE		ADELAIDE	PERTH STATE LAB.	TOTAL
		ICPMR/WVH	RAHC	PHH/POW	FAIR-FIELD	RCH	IMVS		
0100 Adenovirus not typed	4				2		3	4	13
0101 " type 1								1	1
0102 " " 2					1	1	2	5	9
0105 " " 5		2					1		3
0107 " " 7		1		1			1	1	4
0131 " " 31							1		1
0201 Influenza A virus	5	41		1	2		6	2	57
0202 " A virus subtype H3N2 (former A2)	23				8	4	7		42
0301 Parainfluenza virus type 1	8							12	20
0302 " " " 2					1			1	2
0303 " " " 3	1					1		1	3
0400 Respiratory syncytial virus (RS)	3	16	1		7	10	2	20	59
0500 Rhinovirus (all types)	6	1			3	5			15
0600 Mycoplasma pneumoniae	6	1					1	2	10
0700 Ornithosis-psittacosis		1						1	2
0809 Coxsackievirus A9								2	2
0816 " A16								7	7
0904 " B4					2		1		3
0905 " B5								2	2
1004 Echovirus type 4								1	1
1005 " " 5				1					1
1006 " " 6							2	2	4
							.../2		

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PERIOD 18
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VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	BRISBANE STATE LAB.	SYDNEY/CANBERRA			MELBOURNE		ADELAIDE	PERTH STATE LAB.	TOTAL
		ICPMR/WVH	RAHC	PHH/POW	FAIR-FIELD	RCH	IMVS		
1007 Echovirus type 7				1					1
1009 " " 9					1		2	1	4
1012 " " 12	1			1					2
1017 " " 17					1				1
1018 " " 18		2							2
1022 " " 22								1	1
1024 " " 24								1	1
1025 " " 25				1					1
1101 Poliovirus type 1		1					1	1	3
1102 " " 2	1								1
1103 " " 3	1								1
1105 Sabin poliovirus			1						1
1200 Mumps virus	1				3				4
1300 Herpes virus not typed		1			2		2	4	9
1301 " simplex virus - not typed	20	4	1	6	1	4			36
1303 Varicella-Zoster virus	1						1	1	3
1306 Herpes simplex type 1		9			6		10		25
1307 " " " 2		12			3		8		23
1401 Coxiella burneti	17	3					1		21
1514 Molluscum contagiosum								1	1
1522 Rubella virus	2				2	1			5
1532 Hepatitis B antigen	4	7		15	23		4	7	60
1533 " B antibody	8						8	11	27

PERIOD 18
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LABORATORY

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	BRISBANE STATE LAB.	SYDNEY/CANBERRA			MELBOURNE		ADELAIDE	PERTH	TOTAL
		ICPMR/ WVH	RAHC	PHH/POW	FAIR- FIELD	RCH	IMVS	STATE LAB.	
1541 TRIC - Trachoma-Inclusion conjunctivitis							1	8	9
1556 CMV - cytomegalovirus	6	2		2	1	3	3	9	26
1564 Rotavirus		3		2	9		16	5	35
Ross River	5								5
Parvo-like		13							13
TOTAL TYPED VIRUSES	123	120	3	31	78	29	84	114	582
0199 Adenovirus type pending	4	1	1			4			10
0299 Influenza virus type pending		6							6
0399 Parainfluenza virus type pending	1								1
1099 Echovirus type pending			1						1
1399 Herpes virus type pending								19	19
1599 Enterovirus type pending						3			3

PERIOD: 18

DATES: 26. 8.'77 to 8. 9.'77

SOURCE OF TISSUE

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	SOURCE OF TISSUE										TOTAL	
	FA	BL	NA	CS	SK	EY	UR	GE	BR	OT		
0100 Adenovirus not typed	7	3	3									13
0101 " type 1			1									1
0102 " " 2	4		4				1					9
0105 " " 5	1		2									3
0107 " " 7	2		2									4
0131 " " 31			1									1
0201 Influenza A virus		16	41									57
0202 " A virus subtype H3N2 (former A2)		1	40						1	1		43
0301 Parainfluenza virus type 1		2	18									20
0302 " " " 2			2									2
0303 " " " 3		2	1									3
0400 Respiratory syncytial virus (RS)		3	55									58
0500 Rhinovirus (all types)			14									14
0600 Mycoplasma pneumoniae		10										10
0700 Ornithosis-psittacosis		2										2
0809 Coxsackievirus A9	1											1
0816 " A16			2		5							7
0904 " B4		3										3
0905 " B5		2										2
1004 Echovirus type 4			1									1
1005 " " 5	1											1
1006 " " 6	1		2		1							4
1007 Echovirus type 7	1											1
1009 " " 9	1		2		3							6

PERIOD 18

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SOURCE OF TISSUE

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	SOURCE OF TISSUE										TOTAL	
	FA	BL	NA	CS	SK	EY	UR	GE	BR	OT		
1012 Echovirus type 12	2											2
1017 " " 17			1									1
1018 " " 18			2									2
1022 " " 22	1											1
1024 " " 24				1								1
1025 " " 25	1											1
1101 Poliovirus type 1	2		1							1		3
1102 " " 2												1
1103 " " 3		1										1
1105 Sabin poliovirus	1		1									2
1200 Mumps virus		3		1		7						4
1300 Herpes virus not typed		1	1			7						9
1301 " simplex virus - not typed		4	14			7	1	10				36
1303 Varicella-Zoster virus		1				2						3
1306 Herpes simplex type 1			5			10	2	6		2		25
1307 " " " 2						6		17				23
1401 Coxiella burneti		21										21
1514 Molluscum contagiosum						1						1
1522 Rubella virus		2	3									5
1532 Hepatitis B antigen		60										60
1533 " B antibody		27										27
1541 TRIC - Trachoma-Inclusion conjunctivitis							1	8				9
1556 CMV - cytomegalovirus		5	12					3	7			27
1564 Rotavirus	35											35

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19. 8. '77

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.	5			4			
ANKYLOSTOMIASIS	N.N.								N.N.				15			* 226
ARBO VIRUS INFECTION			N.N.		N.N.						N.N.		N.N.			
DENGUE					N.N.								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										1			1			
MALARIA		1								31			16			6
ORNITHOSIS (PSITTACOSIS, etc)										1			1			
Q. FEVER							N.N.								N.N.	
SALMONELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)		1			4					82			192			46
SHIGELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)	N.N.								N.N.							140

N.N. - NOT NOTIFIABLE

* - INCLUDES ADJUSTMENTS FOR REVISED DIAGNOSIS OR OTHER AMENDMENT.

QLD. (+) - MONTHLY NOTIFICATION OF GONORRHOEA AND SYPHILIS.

Director-General of Health

25. 8. '77

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.	5	16	3	4			
ANKYLOSTOMIASIS	N.N.								N.N.		4		15			226
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									8	1	1	2	1			
MALARIA	2	2					1		48	33	41	14	16		9	6
ORNITHOSIS (PSITTACOSIS, etc)										1			1			
Q. FEVER			1				N.N.		118		178	7			N.N.	
SALMONELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)	38	1		1	8		1		525	83	52	166	200		35	46
SHIGELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)	N.N.								N.N.		66	57			5	140

N.N. - NOT NOTIFIABLE

* - INCLUDES ADJUSTMENTS FOR REVISED DIAGNOSIS OR OTHER AMENDMENT.

QLD. (+) - MONTHLY NOTIFICATION OF GONORRHOEA AND SYPHILIS.

Director-General of Health

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19 SEP 1977

1. 9. '77

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.	5	16	3	4			
ANKYLOSTOMIASIS	N.N.								N.N.		4		15			
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									8	1	1	2	1			
MALARIA			2						48	33	43	14	16			9
ORNITHOSIS (PSITTACOSIS, etc)										1			1			
Q. FEVER			1				N.N.		118		*352	7				N.N.
SALMONELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)	15	2	2	2	2				540	85	54	168	202			35
SHIGELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)	N.N.								N.N.		66	57				5

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

Director-General of Health