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AUSTRALIA - COMMUNICABLE DISEASES INTELLIGENCE  
(incorporating the National Microbiological  
Laboratory Reporting Service)

BULLETIN 24

17 November 1977 - 30 November 1977

12 DEC 1977

CONTAMINATED FROZEN EGG PULP

Bulletin 23 reported that Salmonella havana and another salmonella serotype had been isolated from frozen egg pulp originating from a factory near Griffith in N.S.W. Advice has now been received that the second organism was S. lille.

The statement in the last bulletin concerning the testing of the egg pulp was in error. It should have read:

"The fact that the pulp had been suitably pasteurized was suggested by a negative result for the  $\alpha$ -amylase test for the egg product."

INFLUENZA A STRAINS ISOLATED AT FAIRFIELD HOSPITAL (contributed by Anne Donaldson, Margery Kennett, Fred Lewis, John White)

Influenza A strains isolated at Fairfield Hospital between August and November 1977 appeared to fall into two different categories when tested by Haemagglutination Inhibition using reference antisera. Representative strains of these 2 groups sent to C.S.L. were identified as being similar to either A/Vic/3/75 or A/Vic/65/77. Several Influenza B strains were also isolated during this period and these have been identified at World Influenza Centre, London, as being similar to B/Wellington/1/75.

The table summarizes Influenza isolations for the last 4 months. A further 38 Influenza A and 3 Influenza B infections have been demonstrated by serological methods.

FAIRFIELD HOSPITAL

Influenza Isolations August - November 1977

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Influenza A-like A/Vic/3/75	5	2		
Influenza A-like A/Vic/35/77	7	15	17	2
Influenza B-like B/Wellington/ 1/75		1	5	3

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Tests to determine H.I. antibodies against various Influenza A antigens were done on 201 sera collected in October and November from antenatal patients at a Melbourne hospital. The table summarizes these findings.

Antigen	% of sera with titres	
	1/40	Geometric Mean Titre
A/Vic/3/75	30	15.9
*A/Vic/105/77	12	9.4
A/Texas/1/77	14	10.7

\*A/Vic/105/77 similar to A/Vic/35/77

SUMMARY OF THE FAECAL SPECIMENS FOUND POSITIVE FOR ROTAVIRUS  
BY E.M. EXAMINATION AT FAIRFIELD HOSPITAL DURING 1977  
 (contributed by the staff of the Fairfield Hospital)

1977	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV
No. faecal specimens positive for Rotavirus by E.M.	0	0	1	14	1	2	2	9	12	7	13

The oldest patient included in the above group is a 49 year old man, who presented with diarrhoea and vomiting of acute onset. His illness lasted 4 days.

Faecal specimens were negative for bacterial pathogens and intestinal parasites, while rotavirus particles were visualized in high concentration on electron microscopy.

GROUP B ARBOVIRUS ENCEPHALITIS (contributed by the staff of Fairfield Hospital)

In Bulletin 22 a case of encephalitis was reported in a 38 year old female, who had recently travelled in Indonesia. A rise in Group B Arbovirus antibodies was shown by H.I. This

has now been confirmed by the Queensland Institute of Medical Research and C.F. tests showed a seroconversion to Dengue I and Dengue IV to a titre of 1/16 (compatible with a recent Dengue infection).

Encephalopathy is not unknown in Dengue.

CASES OF INTEREST REPORTED BY STAFF OF ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, MELBOURNE

1. Rubella embryopathy

A 10 weeks' pregnant woman presented at a clinic with a vague history of rash at 6-8 weeks gestation. Her two children had been clinically diagnosed as having rubella at that time. Blood taken at presentation and 9 days later showed a high stationary rubella H.I. titre. The second serum was forwarded to a Melbourne hospital which confirmed the high titre but could not detect rubella specific IgM on two separate tests. The pregnancy was allowed to continue to term and a male child was born with a typical congenital rubella syndrome. The child was admitted to R.C.H. at 7 weeks of age where rubella virus was isolated from the urine and rubella specific IgM was detected in the serum. The inadequate history in this case makes it impossible to determine whether the mother's second serum was received too late for IgM to be detected or whether this is a case of reinfection without IgM response.

2. Congenital cytomegalovirus in twins

Twins born of an 18 year old primigravida were noted to have hepatosplenomegaly and petechiae at birth. Throat and urine specimens taken at day one yielded CMV within 24 hours. This not only illustrates a rare CMV intrauterine infection of twins but also indicates that a rapid diagnosis can be made by isolation if sufficient virus is being excreted. Rapid diagnosis may be useful if treatment with adenine arabinoside is contemplated, particularly in the more severe forms of the disease.

3. Late isolation of measles

Measles virus was isolated from a 2 year old asthmatic child from mucus taken 30 days after measles infection was clinically diagnosed. The child was admitted to hospital 4 weeks after the rash with a 2 week history of wheezing. As measles virus is rarely isolated from mucus 4-5 days post rash, this case represents an unusually long excretion pattern.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAY PERIODS

It may prove necessary to issue reports on the next two reporting periods together early in the New Year. Regular publication will resume from that time.

NATIONAL MICROBIOLOGICAL LABORATORY REPORTING SERVICE

PERIOD 24  
 DATES 17.11.'77 - 30.11.'77

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	3			2				5	10
0101 " type 1	1	2					1	1	5
0102 " " 2	2				2		1	1	6
0103 " " 3		1			1				2
0105 " " 5					2		1	2	5
0106 " " 6		1							1
0108 " " 8					2			1	3
0119 " " 19								4	4
0201 Influenza A virus	1	4			5		2	17	29
0203 " B virus					3				3
0301 Parainfluenza virus type 1			2				2	1	5
0302 " " " 2								4	4
0303 " " " 3	4	1			3	9	3	2	22
0400 Respiratory syncytial virus (RS)	1			1			4	7	13
0500 Rhinovirus (all types)	1				6	4	1	1	13
0600 Mycoplasma pneumoniae	2	11	1	1	4		1	8	28
0700 Ornithosis-psittacosis				1	1			1	3
0808 Coxsackievirus A8								1	1
0816 " A16	8	1							9
0902 " B2							1	1	2
0905 " B5			1						1
1006 Echovirus type 6					2		3		5
1007 " " 7					1				1

NATIONAL MICROBIOLOGICAL LABORATORY REPORTING SERVICE

PERIOD 24  
 DATES 17.11.'77 - 30.11.'77

LABORATORY

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	BRISBANE STATE LAB.	SYDNEY/CANBERRA			MELBOURNE		ADELAIDE	PERTH STATE LAB.	TOT
		ICPMR/ WVH	RAHC	PHH/POW	FAIR-FIELD	RCH	IMVS		
1009 Echovirus type 9	11						2	4	17
1015 " " 15	1						1		2
1017 " " 17						1	5		6
1018 " " 18		2							2
1022 " " 22							2		2
1023 " " 23								1	1
1031 " " 31	1								1
1100 Poliovirus not typed	1								1
1101 " type 1					1	1			2
1102 " " 2								1	1
1103 " " 3						1			1
1105 Sabin poliovirus			1						1
1200 Mumps virus	4	2			7	3	6		22
1300 Herpes virus not typed							1	7	8
1301 " simplex virus - not typed	18	4	1	5		2		1	31
1302 Epstein-Barr virus (EB virus)							8		8
1303 Varicella-Zoster virus	1	1		3	1	1		2	9
1306 Herpes simplex type 1		7			12		5	1	25
1307 " " " 2		8			7		8	11	34
1401 Coxiella burneti	14	12		1			1	1	29
1502 Picorna virus - not typed								1	1
1521 Measles virus				2		2			4
1522 Rubella virus	1				2	1	1	2	7

NATIONAL MICROBIOLOGICAL LABORATORY REPORTING SERVICE

PERIOD 24

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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		
1531 Hepatitis B virus			1						1
1532 " B antigen	11	7		14	15		2	9	58
1533 " B antibody	33						19	24	76
1541 TRIC - Trachoma-Inclusion conjunctivitis							5	16	21
1543 LGV - Lymphogranuloma venereum								1	1
1556 CMV - cytomegalovirus	11	2		3		3	2	8	29
1563 Coronavirus							1	1	2
1564 Rotavirus		2		2	7		1	3	15
Australian Encephalitis								1	1
TOTAL TYPED VIRUSES	130	68	7	35	84	30	88	152	594
0199 Adenovirus type pending		2				2			4
1099 Echovirus type pending	3								3
1599 Enterovirus type pending						4			4



PERIOD: 24  
 DATE: 17.11.'77 - 30.11.'77

SOURCE OF SPECIMEN

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	FA	BL	NA	CS	SK	EY	UR	GE	BR	OT	TOTAL
1017 Echovirus type 17	3			2						1	6
1018 " " 18			1	1							2
1022 " " 22	1		1								2
1023 " " 23				1							1
1031 " " 31	1										1
1100 Poliovirus not typed	1										1
1101 " type 1	2										2
1102 " " 2			1								1
1103 " " 3							1				1
1105 Sabin poliovirus			1								1
1200 Mumps virus		4	7	11			1				23
1300 Herpes virus not typed		6			2						8
1301 " simplex virus - not typed		3	8		8			10		2	31
1302 Epstein-Barr virus (EB virus)		8									8
1303 Varicella-Zoster virus		7	1		1						9
1306 Herpes simplex type 1			8		9	3		5		1	26
1307 " " " 2			1		9	1		24			35
1401 Coxiella burneti		29									29
1502 Picorna virus - not typed			1								1
1521 Measles virus		2	2								4
1522 Rubella virus		6	1								7
1531 Hepatitis B virus		1									1
1532 " B antigen		56									56
1533 " B antibody		76									76
1541 TRIC - Trachoma-Inclusion conjunctivitis		1		1		3		16			21

PERIOD: 24  
 DATE: 17.11.'77 - 30.11.'77

SOURCE OF SPECIMEN

VIRUS OR VIRAL ANTIGEN	FA	BL	NA	CS	SK	EY	UR	GE	BR	OT	TOTAL
1543 LGV - Lymphogranuloma venereum		1									1
1556 CMV - cytomegalovirus		7	11				7	7			32
1563 Coronavirus	1	1									2
1564 Rotavirus	15										15
Australian Encephalitis		1									1
<b>TOTAL TYPED VIRUSES</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>601</b>
0199 Adenovirus type pending	3					1					4
1099 Echovirus type pending	1		1	1							3
1599 Enterovirus type pending	1		2				1				4



11.11.'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.	6						
ANKYLOSTOMIASIS	N.N.								N.N.	1						* 286
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										3						
MALARIA		1								44				1		10
ORNITHOSIS (PSITTACOSIS, etc)										1						
Q. FEVER							N.N.								N.N.	
SALMONELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)		4							1	121				52		52
SHIGELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)	N.N.									N.N.						152

N.N. - NOT NOTIFIABLE

\* - INCLUDES ADJUSTMENTS FOR REVISED DIAGNOSIS OR OTHER AMENDMENT.

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

N.B. Notifications for Hydatid, Malaria, Salmonella and Shigella in the N.T. column for the week ending 11.11.'77 should have been in the A.C.T. column. The correct N.T. figures are shown on this return.

Director-General of Health



18.11.'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.	6	19	3	5			
ANKYLOSTOMIASIS	N.N.								N.N.	1	46		17			
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	3	1	3	1			2
MALARIA	3	1	1		4				71	45	54	*16	24	1		10
ORNITHOSIS (PSITTACOSIS, etc)										1			1			
Q. FEVER				1			N.N.		125		414	1				N.N.
SALMONELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)	151	36	1		1	1	1		781	157	65	*211	230	53		45
SHIGELLA (LABORATORY ISOLATES)	N.N.		6						N.N.		87	66				6

N.N. - NOT NOTIFIABLE

\* - INCLUDES ADJUSTMENTS FOR REVISED DIAGNOSIS OR OTHER AMENDMENT.

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

Director-General of Health