

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES

## NOTIFICATIONS

### GONOCOCCAL ISOLATES IN NSW

In the July-September quarter of 1994 the Neisseria Reference Laboratory at the Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney, examined 132 isolates of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. This is a similar figure to the 127 strains examined in 1993 but considerably fewer than the 180 seen in 1992. The trend to lower numbers of isolates, first observed 12 months ago, appears to be continuing.

The downward trend in the number of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* isolates this year is largely due to a reduction in isolates from males. The male:female ratio for 1994 is 5.6:1, a decrease from 8.8:1, the figure for the corresponding period in 1993.

Rectal isolates accounted for 10.7 per cent of all isolates from males, and 6.2 per cent of isolates from men were from the pharynx.

Thirty-five of 132 isolates (26.5 per cent) were resistant to penicillin, with most resistant strains (24/35) resulting from a chromosomally mediated mechanism of resistance. Five of the 11 cases of penicillin-resistant *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*

detected in this quarter were from patients infected overseas and one infection was locally acquired. Acquisition details were not available in the other six patients.

All isolates were sensitive to ceftriaxone and spectinomycin and only a single isolate displayed low-level ciprofloxacin resistance. There were 11 strains (8.3 per cent) with high-level tetracycline resistance (TRNG), an increase from six resistant strains detected in the last quarter. Details of acquisition are incomplete but available information suggests overseas acquisition is frequent. The pattern of antibiotic resistance was essentially unaltered, but there was an increase in the number of TRNG isolates.

### NOTE TO ACCOMPANY TABLES

Data this month are incomplete, due to disruptions caused by the installation of the revised version of the Infectious Diseases Surveillance System. Six Public Health Units (PHUs) were unable to provide data for October. All PHUs will be up to date for the next *NSW Public Health Bulletin*.

### CHANGE IN ABBREVIATION

The abbreviation for Western NSW PHU has changed from WNSW to WN.

TABLE 3

SURVEILLANCE OF NON-NOTIFIABLE SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES  
JANUARY-OCTOBER 1994  
(Diagnoses from sexual health centres unless otherwise stated in footnote)

AHS Infection		CSA <sup>1</sup>	SSA <sup>2</sup>	ESA <sup>3</sup>	SWS <sup>4</sup>	WSA <sup>4</sup> + WEN	NSA <sup>5</sup>	CCA <sup>3</sup>	ILL <sup>5</sup>	HUN <sup>6</sup>	NC <sup>7</sup>	ND <sup>7</sup>	WN <sup>8</sup>	CW <sup>9</sup>	SW <sup>9</sup>	SE <sup>10</sup>	Total
Chlamydia trachomatis	Male	1	-	62	2	6	2	1	5	8	-	5	7	-	3	-	102
	Female	1	-	53	5	7	1	1	4	14	1	18	23	-	8	-	136
	Total	2	-	115	7	13	3	2	9	22	1	23	30	-	11	-	238
Donovanosis	Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
*Genital herpes	Male	3	1	231	3	12	8	12	-	15	7	3	1	-	5	-	301
	Female	4	3	144	5	9	9	11	11	15	9	14	6	-	7	-	247
	Total	7	4	275	8	21	17	23	11	30	16	17	7	-	12	-	548
*Genital warts	Male	11	6	635	69	74	22	35	68	75	33	8	6	-	8	-	1,050
	Female	8	6	257	32	37	21	20	23	30	11	27	19	-	10	-	501
	Total	19	12	892	101	111	43	55	91	105	44	35	25	-	18	-	1,551
Nongonococcal urethritis	Male	3	1	467	23	55	14	33	24	43	13	10	7	-	4	-	697
	Female	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	9
	Total	3	1	467	23	58	16	33	24	43	13	10	9	-	6	-	706
Lymphogranuloma venereum	Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\* First diagnosis

1. 01/01/94-30/04/94

2. 01/01/94-31/01/94

3. 01/01/94-31/09/94

4. 01/01/94-31/03/94

5. 01/01/94-31/08/94

6. 01/01/94-31/06/94

7. 01/01/94-31/10/94

8. No SHC in Region

9. Laboratory and SHC data 01/01/94-31/08/94

10. No data yet received for 1994

TABLE 4

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS FOR 1994  
BY SELECTED MONTH OF ONSET FOR NOTIFICATIONS  
RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 31, 1994

Condition	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total
Adverse event after immunisation	4	3	1	–	8
AIDS	28	29	23	5	85
Arboviral infection	7	4	2	–	13
Brucellosis	–	2	–	–	2
Foodborne illness (NOS)	5	5	8	4	22
Gastroenteritis (instit.)	46	38	9	–	93
Gonorrhoea	28	26	18	4	76
H influenzae epiglottitis	–	–	2	1	3
H influenzae meningitis	–	2	1	–	3
H influenzae septicaemia	1	1	1	–	3
Hepatitis A – acute viral	37	42	29	15	123
Hepatitis B – acute viral	7	10	2	1	20
Hepatitis B – chronic/carrier	47	48	18	3	116
Hepatitis B – unspecified	310	336	302	132	1,080
Hepatitis C – acute viral	3	6	2	–	11
Hepatitis C – unspecified	748	851	619	211	2,429
Hepatitis D – unspecified	1	–	–	1	2
Hepatitis, acute viral (NOS)	1	1	1	–	3
HIV infection	36	35	33	17	121
Hydatid disease	2	2	–	1	5
Legionnaires' disease	10	3	2	–	15
Leprosy	–	1	–	–	1
Leptospirosis	–	2	–	–	2
Listeriosis	–	1	1	–	2
Malaria	12	17	10	6	45
Measles	38	40	207	165	450
Meningococcal meningitis	6	18	3	4	31
Meningococcal septicaemia	5	7	4	2	18
Meningococcal infection (NOS)	2	2	3	–	7
Mumps	–	1	1	1	3
Mycobacterial atypical	31	20	14	1	66
Mycobacterial tuberculosis	17	18	17	5	57
Mycobacterial infection (NOS)	11	8	12	5	36
Pertussis	95	119	91	25	330
Q fever	16	13	13	3	45
Rubella	2	2	1	1	6
Rubella – congenital	–	1	–	–	1
Salmonella (NOS)	37	37	35	34	143
Salmonella bovis moribificans	1	1	1	–	3
Salmonella typhimurium	18	23	5	–	46
Syphilis	66	107	71	19	263
Typhoid and paratyphoid	3	3	2	–	8
Total	1,681	1,885	1,564	666	5,796

TABLE 5

SUMMARY OF NSW INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS  
OCTOBER 1994

Condition	Number of cases notified			
	Period		Cumulative	
	Oct 1993	Oct 1994	Oct 1993	Oct 1994
Adverse reaction	2	–	23	27
AIDS	35	5	315	285
Arboviral infection	15	–	627	352
Brucellosis	–	–	4	2
Cholera	–	–	–	–
Diphtheria	–	–	–	–
Foodborne illness (NOS)	2	4	107	146
Gastroenteritis (instit.)	24	–	333	205
Gonorrhoea	31	4	297	256
H influenzae epiglottitis	1	1	31	21
H influenzae B – meningitis	2	–	52	13
H influenzae B – septicaemia	2	–	23	11
H influenzae infection (NOS)	1	–	14	8
Hepatitis A	50	15	517	413
Hepatitis B	379	136	3,329	3,352
Hepatitis C	633	211	5,261	6,737
Hepatitis D	2	–	11	13
Hepatitis, acute viral (NOS)	–	–	6	6
HIV infection	47	17	472	370
Hydatid disease	–	1	1	13
Legionnaires' disease	4	–	56	52
Leprosy	–	–	3	3
Leptospirosis	2	–	14	12
Listeriosis	5	–	11	6
Malaria	5	6	151	160
Measles	494	165	1,482	770
Meningococcal meningitis	17	4	78	61
Meningococcal septicaemia	4	2	34	31
Meningococcal infection (NOS)	2	–	11	13
Mumps	–	1	6	6
Mycobacterial tuberculosis	32	5	350	250
Mycobacterial – atypical	37	1	335	324
Mycobacterial infection (NOS)	8	5	39	70
Pertussis	308	25	989	1,083
Plague	–	–	–	–
Poliomyelitis	–	–	–	–
Q fever	31	3	338	197
Rubella	159	1	653	37
Salmonella infection (NOS)	54	34	779	839
Syphilis	59	19	613	816
Tetanus	–	–	5	2
Typhoid and paratyphoid	5	–	24	23
Typhus	–	–	–	–
Viral haemorrhagic fevers	–	–	–	–
Yellow fever	–	–	–	–

*Abbreviations used in this Bulletin:*

CSA Central Sydney Health Area, SSA Southern Sydney Health Area, ESA Eastern Sydney Health Area, SWS South Western Sydney Health Area, WSA Western Sydney Health Area, WEN Wentworth Health Area, NSA Northern Sydney Health Area, CCA Central Coast Health Area, ILL Illawarra Health Area, HUN Hunter Health Area, NC North Coast Public Health Unit, ND Northern District Public Health Unit, WN Western New South Wales Public Health Unit, CW Central West Public Health Unit, SW South West Public Health Unit, SE South East Public Health Unit, OTH Interstate/Overseas, U/K Unknown, NOS Not Otherwise Stated.

Please note that the data contained in this Bulletin are provisional and subject to change because of late reports or changes in case classification. Data are tabulated where possible by area of residence and by the disease onset date and not simply the date of notification or receipt of such notification.

**TABLE 6**

**INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS FOR 1994  
BY PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT, RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 31, 1994**

Condition	CSA	SSA	ESA	SWS	WSA	WEN	NSA	CCA	ILL	HUN	NC	ND	WN	CW	SW	SE	U/K	Total
Adverse event after immunisation	-	2	2	2	6	4	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	6	-	27
AIDS	41	18	98	13	35	16	20	4	9	5	18	6	-	1	1	-	-	285
Arboviral infection	-	2	2	-	-	-	11	4	6	40	189	57	26	4	9	2	-	352
Brucellosis	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Foodborne illness (NOS)	3	12	8	32	15	8	5	14	1	8	23	1	3	7	2	4	-	146
Gastroenteritis (instit)	68	14	-	10	41	27	1	1	-	3	10	-	-	30	-	-	-	205
Gonorrhoea	30	16	96	8	13	1	12	4	7	6	5	19	25	5	6	3	-	256
H. influenzae epiglottitis	2	3	1	2	1	3	2	3	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
H. influenzae meningitis	1	-	-	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	13
H. influenzae septicaemia	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	11
H. influenzae infection (NOS)	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	8
Hepatitis A - acute viral	22	21	44	40	24	5	29	3	7	19	40	48	6	29	73	3	-	413
Hepatitis B - acute viral	4	2	27	4	3	-	-	-	1	4	8	2	6	1	1	3	-	66
Hepatitis B - chronic/carrier	-	-	235	1	100	6	14	17	-	24	28	10	6	10	-	2	-	453
Hepatitis B - unspecified	390	408	80	896	408	28	394	20	63	46	34	13	9	6	27	11	-	2,833
Hepatitis C - acute viral	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	1	4	-	15
Hepatitis C - unspecified	756	426	1,172	701	653	144	605	227	299	369	749	133	45	115	148	180	-	6,722
Hepatitis D - unspecified	3	2	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Hepatitis E - acute viral	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hepatitis, acute viral (NOS)	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5
HIV infection	52	19	132	17	15	5	22	4	3	7	6	-	1	-	2	1	84	370
Hydatid disease	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	2	-	-	13
Legionnaires' disease	3	2	2	7	11	2	12	-	3	7	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	52
Leprosy	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Leptospirosis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	12
Listeriosis	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6
Malaria	16	10	15	11	11	4	40	4	6	7	11	8	-	3	6	8	-	160
Measles	30	17	14	32	38	36	27	8	22	36	167	97	31	16	2	197	-	770
Meningococcal meningitis	5	8	2	8	5	2	4	3	5	5	4	1	3	3	1	2	-	61
Meningococcal septicaemia	2	4	1	7	3	-	4	1	1	5	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	31
Meningococcal infection (NOS)	-	1	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	1	-	-	-	13
Mumps	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Mycobacterial atypical	50	20	85	43	12	15	36	8	2	36	11	3	-	1	2	-	-	324
Mycobacterial tuberculosis	31	42	28	43	31	4	29	1	9	10	6	5	3	2	5	1	-	250
Mycobacterial infection (NOS)	9	2	3	2	8	1	33	1	-	3	3	2	-	3	-	-	-	70
Pertussis	23	77	57	90	104	36	62	15	53	47	416	30	25	16	7	25	-	1,083
Q fever	2	2	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	23	24	65	55	18	3	1	-	197
Rubella	-	-	4	-	9	2	4	1	-	4	6	2	-	3	-	-	-	35
Rubella - congenital	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Salmonella (NOS)	26	38	32	47	44	21	54	15	10	31	68	60	25	11	19	10	-	511
Salmonella bovis morificans	-	2	1	1	1	3	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Salmonella typhimurium	22	25	21	11	51	16	36	17	20	23	14	12	9	10	26	2	-	315
Syphilis	113	49	204	124	52	5	50	10	12	5	31	36	103	11	8	3	-	816
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Typhoid and paratyphoid	5	2	3	2	3	1	1	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	2	-	23

**TABLE 7**

**SELECTED INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS FOR 1994  
BY PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT, RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 31, 1994**

Condition	CSA	SSA	ESA	SWS	WSA	WEN	NSA	CCA	ILL	HUN	NC	ND	WN	CW	SW	SE	Total
Adverse event after immunisation	-	2	2	2	6	4	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	6	27
H. influenzae epiglottitis	2	3	1	2	1	3	2	3	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	21
H. influenzae meningitis	1	-	-	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	13
H. influenzae septicaemia	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	11
H. influenzae infection (NOS)	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	8
Measles	30	17	14	32	38	36	27	8	22	36	167	97	31	16	2	197	770
Mumps	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	6
Pertussis	23	77	57	90	104	36	62	15	53	47	416	30	25	16	7	25	1,083
Rubella	-	-	4	-	9	2	4	1	-	4	6	2	-	3	-	-	35
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2

**TABLE 8**

**FOODBORNE INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS FOR 1994  
BY PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT, RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 31, 1994**

Condition	CSA	SSA	ESA	SWS	WSA	WEN	NSA	CCA	ILL	HUN	NC	ND	WN	CW	SW	SE	Total
Foodborne illness (NOS)	3	12	8	32	15	8	5	14	1	8	23	1	3	7	2	4	146
Gastroenteritis (instit.)	68	14	-	10	41	27	1	1	-	3	10	-	-	30	-	-	205
Hepatitis A - acute viral	22	21	44	40	24	5	29	3	7	19	40	48	6	29	73	3	413
Listeriosis	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	6
Salmonella (NOS)	26	38	32	47	44	21	54	15	10	31	68	60	25	11	19	10	511
Salmonella bovis morificans	-	2	1	1	1	3	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Salmonella typhimurium	22	25	21	11	51	16	36	17	20	23	14	12	9	10	26	2	315
Typhoid and paratyphoid	5	2	2	3	3	1	1	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	2	23