

WHAT'S NEW ON THE CIAP WEB SITE

Michelle Wensley
Clinical Systems
NSW Department of Health

The Clinical Information Access Project (CIAP) Web site continues to provide a comprehensive range of peer-reviewed information 24 hours a day, seven days a week, via the Internet and Intranet. Utilisation of the Web site has steadily increased, with an average of 1.5 million 'hits' per month, and a total of over 15 million 'hits' since its inception in July 1997. Feedback from users continues to be positive and there is a high demand for education on how to effectively search the many databases linked through the Web site.

In 1998, the CIAP Web site was nominated by *PC Authority* as one of the top 10 medical Web sites in Australia, and received both the *Data Management Association Australia Achievement Award* for excellence in information management and the *Australian Library and Information Association, NSW Branch Merit Award* for services to rural and remote users and the community.

The purpose of the CIAP Web site is to:

- provide support for decision making within the public health system;
- promote evidence-based practice;

- improve communications at the point of care (that is, wherever a patient is located).

Content of the Web site has grown over the past three years in response to requests by clinicians, and the following on-line information has recently been added:

- Medweaver: for differential diagnosis and disease lookup;
- Micromedex: AltMedREAX—interactions related to herbal medicines and other dietary supplements;
- Antibiotic Guidelines (updated version 11);
- St Vincent's Hospital Nursing Monographs, 1990–2000;
- NSW Clinical Nurse Consultants Web site;
- NSW Therapeutic Assessment Group (TAG) Web site.

Other relevant Web sites can be added to this list by advising CIAP via the Feedback link available from the CIAP Web site.

The knowledge databases on the Web site are protected by password, and are accessible to any health professional employed in the NSW public health system. To obtain a password, or further information about CIAP, contact Michelle Wensley, Clinical Systems, NSW Department of Health; by telephone (02) 9391 9742; or by email mwens@doh.health.nsw.gov.au; or by visiting the CIAP Web site at www.clininfo.health.nsw.gov.au or internal.health.nsw.gov.au:2001. ☒

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, NSW: FEBRUARY 2001

TRENDS

As 2000 drew to a close, there were declines in the notifications of several important infections (Figure 4). Numbers of new cases of **gonorrhoea** are beginning to decline; as are cases of **meningococcal disease** after reaching a seasonal peak (33) in September. **Pertussis**

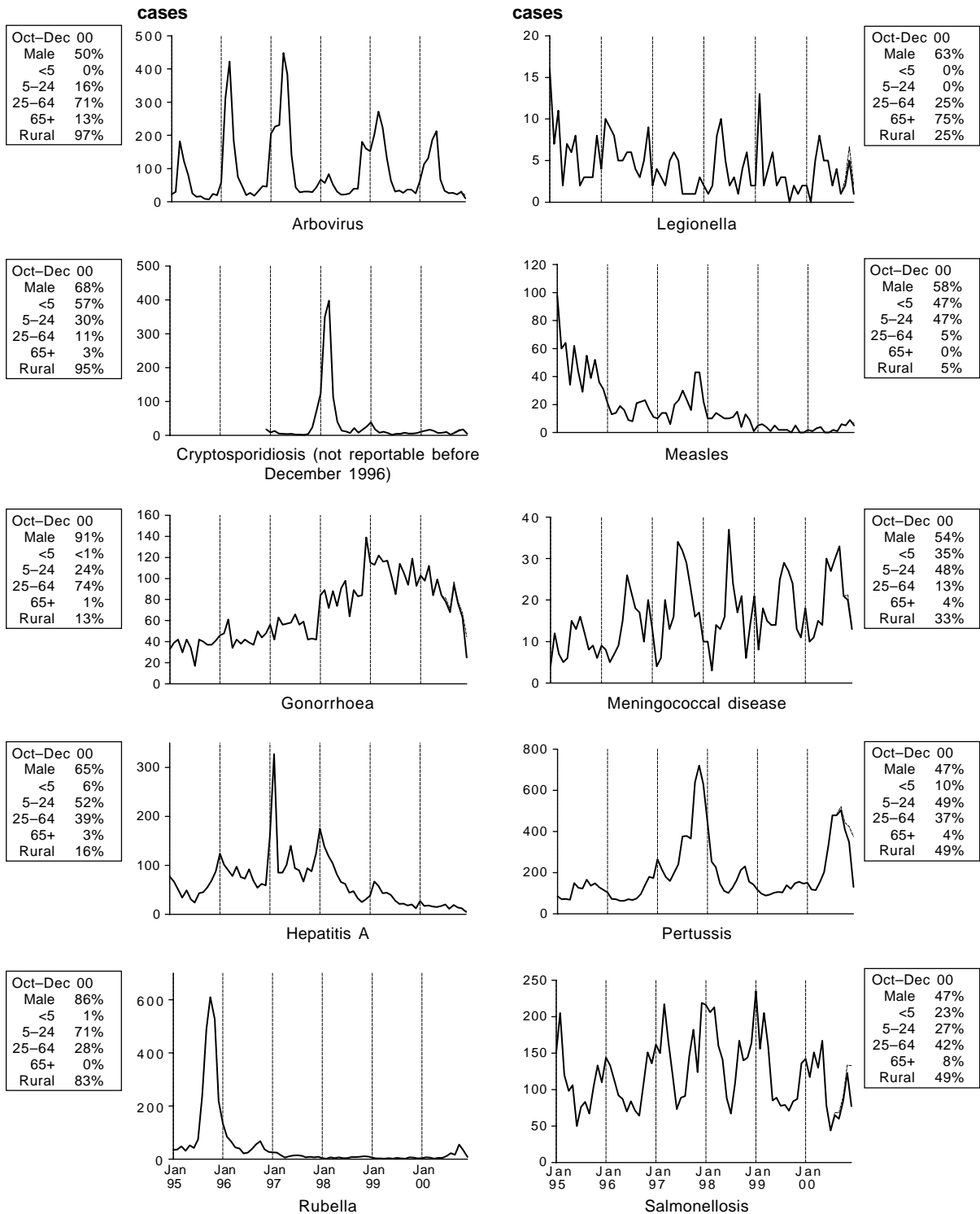
notifications also seemed to have peaked in September (504), but the epidemic may be shifting from rural areas to metropolitan Sydney. Laboratory notifications of **rubella** increased in late 2000, and peaked in October (55). Most cases notified were young men, with a large proportion residing in the Hunter Area (Table 6). ☒

FIGURE 4

REPORTS OF SELECTED COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, NSW, JANUARY 1995 TO DECEMBER 2000, BY MONTH OF ONSET

These are preliminary data: case counts for recent months may increase because of reporting delays. Laboratory-confirmed cases, except for measles, meningococcal disease and pertussis — actual — predicted after adjusting for likely reporting delays

NSW population	
Male	50%
<5	7%
5-24	28%
25-64	52%
65+	13%
Rural*	42%



* For definition, see *NSW Public Health Bulletin*, April 2000

TABLE 6

REPORTS OF NOTIFIABLE CONDITIONS RECEIVED IN DECEMBER 2000 BY AREA HEALTH SERVICES

Condition	Area Health Service (2000)																		Total	
	CSA	NSA	WSA	WEN	SWS	CCA	HUN	ILL	SES	NRA	MNC	NEA	MAC	MWA	FWA	GMA	SA	CHS	for Dec†	To date†
Blood-borne and sexually transmitted																				
AIDS	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	14	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	136
HIV infection*	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	297
Hepatitis B - acute viral*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91
Hepatitis B - other*	15	31	-	3	11	-	8	2	58	3	3	1	3	-	2	3	6	-	150	4,294
Hepatitis C - acute viral*	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	125
Hepatitis C - other*	27	28	59	20	9	20	40	10	104	19	15	7	10	11	8	9	12	31	440	8,425
Hepatitis D - unspecified*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10
Hepatitis, acute viral (not otherwise specified)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chancroid*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chlamydia (genital)*	1	39	26	16	2	8	32	2	88	5	9	10	3	4	6	6	5	2	267	3,380
Gonorrhoea*	1	6	8	2	1	3	1	-	25	1	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	55	1,054
Syphilis	-	-	6	-	2	1	-	-	14	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	29	536
Vector-borne																				
Arboviral infection (BFV)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	196
Arboviral infection (RRV)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	1	-	1	-	10	723
Arboviral infection (Other)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
Malaria*	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	226
Zoonoses																				
Brucellosis*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Leptospirosis*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	56
Q fever*	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	5	117
Respiratory and other																				
Blood lead level*	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	4	1	1	-	1	-	22	-	1	-	33	966
Legionnaires' Longbeachae*	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	11
Legionnaires' Pneumophila*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	26
Legionnaires' (Other)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Leprosy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Meningococcal infection (invasive)	-	3	4	2	3	2	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	244
Mycobacterial tuberculosis	1	3	4	2	3	-	-	-	7	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	25	418
Mycobacteria other than TB	3	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	337
Vaccine-preventable																				
Adverse event after immunisation	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	29
H.influenzae b infection (invasive)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Measles	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	37
Mumps*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	92
Pertussis	9	59	26	15	26	5	85	3	36	5	9	13	12	17	-	12	6	-	339	3,569
Rubella*	-	-	1	-	1	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	179
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
Faecal-oral																				
Botulism	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cholera*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cryptosporidiosis*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	3	-	-	2	1	-	10	129
Giardiasis*	-	14	6	3	-	2	5	2	12	7	-	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	56	963
Food borne illness (not otherwise specified)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	162
Gastroenteritis (in an institution)	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	558
Haemolytic uraemic syndrome	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Hepatitis A*	2	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	200
Hepatitis E*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Listeriosis*	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	15
Salmonellosis (not otherwise specified)*	-	19	31	4	2	9	12	2	14	13	4	5	4	-	2	-	2	-	126	1,306
Typhoid and paratyphoid*	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	44
Verotoxin producing Ecoli*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

* lab-confirmed cases only

† includes cases with unknown postcode

CSA = Central Sydney Area
 NSA = Northern Sydney Area
 WSA = Western Sydney Area

WEN = Wentworth Area
 SWS = South Western Sydney Area
 CCA = Central Coast Area

HUN = Hunter Area
 ILL = Illawarra Area
 SES = South Eastern Sydney Area

NRA = Northern Rivers Area
 MNC = North Coast Area
 NEA = New England Area

MAC = Macquarie Area
 MWA = Mid Western Area
 FWA = Far West Area

GMA = Greater Murray Area
 SA = Southern Area
 CHS = Corrections Health Service