MMR

Epidemiologic Notes and Reports

Lead Intoxication Associated with Chewing Plastic Wire Coating — Ohio

In December 1991, a venous blood lead level (BLL) of 50 μ g/dL was detected in a 46-year-old Ohio man during a routine pre-employment examination. He was referred to a university-based pharmacology and toxicology clinic for further evaluation; clinic physicians investigated the case. Although a repeat BLL obtained 1 month later was 51 μ g/dL, he reported no exposure to known sources of lead during the interim. However, he reported numbness of his fingers and palms, tinnitus, and a possible decrease in his ability to perform basic arithmetical calculations.

A comprehensive occupational and environmental history obtained at the time of the second BLL test revealed no apparent source of his lead exposure. Although he had been employed for approximately 20 years as a microwave technician during military service and while employed at a television station, he reported no history of exposure to lead from soldering or welding. He had no activities or hobbies associated with exposure to lead or lead products, no previous bullet or birdshot wounds, and he denied drinking illicitly distilled alcohol or using lead additives in his car.

His residence was built in 1974 (after lead was banned from use in residential paint)*, and household water was obtained from a well. In January 1992, blood lead testing of family members revealed levels of 5 μ g/dL for his wife and <5 μ g/dL for his 17-year-old child. His only medication was ranitidine[†], which he had used for the previous 1½ years for "indigestion." He reported occasional cigarette smoking.

Although results of a neurologic examination were normal, neuropsychiatric testing on March 13 demonstrated mild memory deficits, as evidenced by abnormalities on verbal and figural memory tests. Because of these abnormalities, beginning March 13, he was treated for 19 days with dimercaptosuccinic acid (DMSA), an oral chelating agent, and on April 4, his BLL had decreased to 13 μ g/dL. However, BLLs on May 15 and July 23 were 49 μ g/dL and 56 μ g/dL, respectively.

Lead Intoxication — Continued

During a July 1992 follow-up clinic visit, he mentioned that for approximately 20 years he had habitually chewed on the plastic insulation that he stripped off the ends of electrical wires. Samples of the copper wire with white, blue, and yellow plastic insulation were obtained and analyzed for lead content. The clear plastic outer coating (present on all colors of wire) and the copper wire contained no lead; however, the colored coatings contained 10,000–39,000 μ g of lead per gram of coating.[§] On receipt of these results, he was instructed immediately to discontinue chewing the wire coating.

In January 1993, when his BLL was 24 μ g/dL, he reported subjective improvement in his symptoms; follow-up neuropsychiatric testing is pending.

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Editorial Note: This report likely represents the first documented case of lead poisoning following ingestion of lead as a consequence of chewing on plastic wire coatings. Plastic coatings previously have been associated with lead exposure in the burning of lead-containing plastics during repair of a storage tank (1), the production of plastics (2,3), and the manufacture and use of stabilizers and pigments in the plastics industry (4). Although lead exposure also can occur among workers who burn the plastic coating off copper wire to recycle the copper, lead intoxication by this route has not been reported (5).

Lead compounds may be employed in the production of colored plastics (in which lead chromates are used as pigment) and in the manufacture of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastics (in which 2%–5% lead salts [including lead oxides, phthalate, sulfate, or carbonate, depending on the desired quality of the final product] are used as stabilizers). Although environmental regulation has reduced considerably the amount of lead used in the United States in the manufacture of PVC plastics, manufacturers of electrical wire and cable continue to produce PVC stabilized and/or pigmented with lead compounds (6).

More than 573,400 U.S. workers are employed in occupations involving electrical work. Among these workers, potential for excessive exposure to lead may result from inhalation of fumes generated during lead soldering (7). Because the plastic coating from wires is usually removed by mechanical stripping, ingestion of lead from these plastic coatings is probably uncommon. Nonetheless, the findings in this report remind occupational and other health-care providers of the need to be aware of this potential source of lead exposure. In addition, workers should be warned of the potential hazard of chewing plastic coatings or other plastic products that may contain lead.

References

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[§]Samples were analyzed using graphite furnace atomic absorption spectroscopy, following dissolution of the plastic coating in tetrahydrofuran.

Lead Intoxication — Continued

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Current Trends

Arboviral Diseases — United States, 1992

During 1992, health departments from 23 states reported to CDC 45 cases of arboviral encephalitis in humans and 97 in horses. An additional four states reported detection of arboviral activity in bird and mosquito populations. Unlike 1990 and 1991, when three St. Louis encephalitis (SLE) epidemics and an eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) epizootic occurred, during 1992, no focal outbreaks of arboviral disease were reported. This report summarizes information regarding arboviral encephalitis in the United States during 1992.

SLE. During 1992, 14 sporadic SLE cases occurred in Texas (12 cases) and California (two) (1)—a substantial decrease from 1990 and 1991 (247 and 78, respectively), when SLE cases were at their highest level since 1976.

LaCrosse encephalitis (LAC). During 1992, 29 cases of LAC encephalitis were reported from Illinois (seven cases), Ohio (six), West Virginia (six), Wisconsin (four), Minnesota (three), and North Carolina (three). This is the lowest number of LAC cases reported since surveillance began in 1964.

EEE and Western equine encephalitis (WEE). During 1992, Florida and Massachusetts each reported one case of EEE. Because of isolation of EEE virus from *Aedes albopictus* during 1991 in Florida, human case surveillance was intensified at five regional medical centers. From May through September 1992, 357 cerebrospinal fluid samples were collected from persons with symptoms suggestive of meningitis or encephalitis. None had EEE-specific immunoglobin M antibody. In 1992, 88 cases of EEE in horses were reported from Florida (54 cases), Georgia (nine), Virginia (nine), Mississippi (four), South Carolina (four), North Carolina (three), Texas (two), Arkansas (one), Kentucky (one), and Michigan (one). Although no cases of WEE were reported in humans, nine cases of WEE in horses were reported during 1992: Idaho (two cases), Missouri (two), Oklahoma (two), Colorado (one), South Dakota (one), and Utah (one).

Enzootic arbovirus activity. In 1992, 28 states conducted arboviral surveillance using virus isolation or antigen detection in captured mosquitoes or viral-specific antibody assays in sentinel or wild birds. Enzootic arboviral activity was reported from 16 states: EEE (Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, and South Carolina), SLE (Arizona, California, Illinois, Michigan, and Texas), WEE (Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, and Utah), and LAC (Illinois).

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Arboviral Diseases — Continued

Editorial Note: An increased number of EEE cases had been anticipated in 1992 for two reasons: 1) in 1991, EEE virus had been isolated from *Aedes albopictus* (2), a more anthropophilic mosquito vector; and 2) in 1991, an EEE epizootic occurred in the Southeast (1). Although arboviral infections are often underreported, the results of intensified surveillance in Florida suggest that human EEE infection did not increase in 1992.

The last nationwide arboviral epidemic (1975 and 1976) resulted in 2194 cases of SLE in 35 states and was preceded by a modest increase in human SLE cases in 1974. Because early recognition of arboviral activity allows for early institution of preventive measures, surveillance of virus activity in mosquito, avian, equine, and human populations has been emphasized.

During 1990 and 1991, moderate increases in arboviral encephalitis cases were noted with outbreaks in Arkansas, Florida, and Texas (*3,4*). Despite changes in the arboviral surveillance system to encourage a greater number of states to report regularly, only 45 cases of human arboviral encephalitis were reported—the lowest number of cases reported since the early 1960s. Most arboviral encephalitis cases were reported from midwestern states. Serosurveys indicate that arboviral infections have a wide geographic distribution in the United States, and that cases are often underreported.

Because early identification of cases is important in reducing the risk for arboviral disease through vector-control practices and changes in human activity patterns, health-care providers should consider arboviruses in the differential diagnosis of viral meningoencephalitis, obtain appropriate specimens for serologic testing, and promptly report cases to state health departments.

References

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International Notes

Mortality Among Newly Arrived Mozambican Refugees — Zimbabwe and Malawi, 1992

An estimated 1.3 million persons have fled Mozambique since 1986 because of civil war in that country. More than 1 million refugees have sought asylum in Malawi and approximately 230,000 in Zimbabwe (Figure 1); of the combined total, an estimated 130,000 (10%) fled during January–September 1992. The rate of exodus accelerated during 1992 because of a severe drought that affected most of southern Africa. During August–September 1992, the Bureau for Refugee Programs of the U.S. Department of State and CDC, in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, assessed the impact of the drought on the health status of refugees in the region through observations of refugee conditions and examinations

of data in refugee camps in Zimbabwe and Malawi. This report summarizes the findings of the assessment.

In Zimbabwe, most newly arriving refugees were placed in Chambuta camp (in south Zimbabwe); the population in this camp increased from 6700 in January to its capacity of 25,000 in August. In Malawi, refugees were placed in Lisungwe Camp, which opened in November 1991; the population of this camp reached 65,000 by the end of August 1992. From July through September, the number of new arrivals each month in Lisungwe ranged from 6000 to 20,000. Because of limited space in Lisungwe in September, approximately 16,000 Mozambican refugees were detained at border posts and temporary reception centers in other camps in Malawi with inadequate shelter, sanitation, and water.

Crude Mortality

In Chambuta, detailed records on deaths were compiled by health center staff. During August 1–20, 1992, the crude mortality rate (CMR) was 3.5 deaths per 10,000 population per day. Although age-specific data were not available, most deaths were reported anecdotally to have occurred in children aged <5 years. During the first 4 weeks after refugees arrived in camp, daily death rates increased from 7.3 per 10,000 population to 8.2, after which rates were inversely related to duration of stay. However, the CMR for refugees who had resided in the camp for more than 6 months was three times the CMR (0.5 per 10,000 per day) reported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for nondisplaced persons in Mozambique (1).

(Continued on page 475)



FIGURE 1. Location of camps that received refugees — Malawi and Zimbabwe, 1992

FIGURE I. Notifiable disease reports, comparison of 4-week totals ending June 19, 1993, with historical data — United States



* The large apparent decrease in reported cases of measles(total) reflects dramatic fluctuations in the historical baseline.

[†]Ratio of current 4-week total to mean of 15 4-week totals (from previous, comparable, and subsequent 4-week periods for the past 5 years). The point where thehatched area begins is based on the mean and two standard deviations of these 4-week totals.

	Cum. 1993		Cum. 1993
AIDS*	51,608	Measles: imported	17 110
Botulism: Foodborne	6	Plaque	3
Infant	12	Poliomyelitis, Paralytic [§]	-
Other	2	Psittacosis	26
Brucellosis	36	Rabies, human	-
Cholera	14	Syphilis, primary & secondary	12,187
Congenital rubella syndrome	5	Syphilis, congenital, age < 1 year	-
Diphtheria	-	Tetanus	15
Encephalitis, post-infectious	80	Toxic shock syndrome	113
Gonorrhea	171,571	Trichinosis	8
Haemophilus influenzae (invasive disease) [†]	602	Tuberculosis	9,201
Hansen Disease	88	Tularemia	42
Leptospirosis	15	Typhoid fever	153
Lyme Disease	1,952	Typhus fever, tickborne (RMSF)	64

TABLE I. Summary — cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, cumulative, week ending June 19, 1993 (24th Week)

*Updated monthly: last update June 5, 1993. [†]Of 550 cases of known age, 187 (34%) were reported among children less than 5 years of age. [§]No cases of suspected poliomyelitis have been reported in 1993; 4 cases of suspected poliomyelitis were reported in 1992; 6 of the 9 suspected cases with onset in 1991 were confirmed; the confirmed cases were vaccine associated.

		Aseptic	Encephalitis				Нер	oatitis (\	/iral), by t	type			
Reporting Area	AIDS*	Menin- gitis	Primary	Post-in- fectious	Gono	rrhea	А	В	NA,NB	Unspeci- fied	Legionel- losis	Lyme Disease	
	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1992	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	
UNITED STATES	51,608	3,101	232	80	171,571	222,224	9,574	5,355	2,115	280	505	1,952	
NEW ENGLAND	2,166	66	5	5	3,188	4,643	245	231	204	7	18	255	
Maine	59 63	9 8	1	- 2	39	39 58	8 14	9 51	- 100	- 1	4	2	
Vt.	14	7	1	-	14	13	3	3	2	-	-	1	
Mass.	1,188	34	3	3	1,309	1,694 356	137	125	8	6	9	46 51	
Conn.	738	-	-	-	1,633	2,483	34	29	-	-	-	135	
MID. ATLANTIC	11,379	306	9	6	18,882	23,361	574	688	153	4	107	1,395	
Upstate N.Y. N Y City	1,938 6,197	119 104	1	3	3,841 4,260	4,871 7,914	170 177	189 121	90 1	1	32	1,036	
N.J.	2,072	-	-	-	3,273	3,212	152	184	43	-	15	129	
Pa.	1,1/2	83	/	3	7,508	7,364	/5	194	19	3	57	227	
E.N. CENTRAL Ohio	4,160	411 131	72 25	15	32,802 8,850	41,597 12,898	928 150	530 111	349	-	130 72	16	
Ind.	502	49	4	7	3,453	3,905	392	83	5	1	21	1	
III. Mich.	1,442	86 135	16 24	- 5	6,829	12,989 9,896	269	219	20 275	2	4 25	1	
Wis.	471	10	3	-	2,370	1,909	6	5	20	-	8	-	
W.N. CENTRAL	2,163	184	10	-	7,978	12,156	1,221	324	93	5	31	35	
lowa	130	43	1	-	602	803	16	12	4	1	5	5	
Mo. N Dak	1,270	41	- 2	-	4,964	6,624	792	243	68	-	9 1	7	
S. Dak.	20	7	2	-	123	82	10	-	-	-	-	-	
Nebr. Kans	100 212	2 42	-	-	170 1 776	743 2 494	109 47	7	9	-	12	1 17	
S. ATLANTIC	10.888	741	43	32	48,139	71.078	590	954	254	35	87	180	
Del.	208	6	3	-	612	808	5	67	59	-	6	83	
D.C.	1,216 548	68 19	10	-	7,487 2,567	6,729 3,483	84	130	5	4	12	29	
Va.	731	76	14	3	5,457	8,445	63	71	20	11	2	18	
vv. va. N.C.	38 453	6 58	8	-	265	423	3 30	148	30		12	26	
S.C.	673	5	-	-	4,710	5,238	7	18	-	1	10	1	
Fla.	5,459	43	-	29	4,000	12,167	348	455	105	- 19	12	- 19	
E.S. CENTRAL	1,396	153	9	4	19,970	21,742	116	538	420	1	21	6	
Ky. Tenn	161 528	63 21	4	4	2,099	2,242	64 19	45 438	5	-	8 10	2	
Ala.	463	41	1	-	7,124	7,278	23	438 52	3	1	1	2	
Miss.	244	28	-	-	4,651	5,230	10	3	5	-	2	-	
W.S. CENTRAL Ark	5,311 227	265 14	19	-	20,469	20,657 3 878	811 26	693 28	96 2	76	14	10 1	
La.	727	23	-	-	5,161	3,175	36	89	35	1	2	-	
Okla. Tex.	423 3.934	1 227	4 15		1,719 9.696	2,226 11.378	49 700	109 467	22 37	6 69	8 4	5 4	
MOUNTAIN	2,599	178	11	3	4,921	5,634	1,945	264	146	48	48	3	
Mont.	15	-	-	1	22	49	53	4	-	-	5	-	
Wyo.	43 28	3	-	-	80 41	59 24	93 10	13	45	-	5	2	
Colo.	868	38	3	-	1,501	2,138	469	30	21	28	4	-	
Ariz.	881	63	4	-	1,839	1,874	676	40	49 9	7	9	-	
Utah	185	6	1	-	154	106	445	20	18	10	7	1	
	307 11 546	20 797	54	- 15	040 15 222	900 21 356	30 3 144	24 1 133	400	- 97	14 49	- 52	
Wash.	764	-	-	-	1,791	1,950	339	96	89	7	7	1	
oreg. Calif.	502 10,149	- 752	- 51	- 15	904 12,071	/12 18,116	52 2,313	20 1,002	8 297	- 88	37	- 50	
Alaska	12	4	2	-	212	339	394	6	4	-	-		
Guam	119	41 2	I	-	244	239	40	9 0	2	2	5	I	
P.R.	- 1,561	27	-	-	209	30 72	35	172	21	2	-	-	
V.I. Amer Samoa	33	-	-	-	55 12	53 20	- 10	2	-	-	-	-	
C.N.M.I.	-	2	-	-	41	29	-	-	-	1	-	-	

TABLE II. Cases of selected notifiable diseases, United States, weeks endingJune 19, 1993, and June 13, 1992 (24th Week)

N: Not notifiable U: Unavailable *Updated monthly; last update June 5, 1993. C.N.M.I.: Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

			Measle	s (Rube	eola)		Menin-									
Reporting Area	Malaria	Indigenous		Impo	orted*	Total	gococcal Infections	Mumps		F	Pertussi	s	Rubella			
	Cum. 1993	1993	Cum. 1993	1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1992	Cum. 1993	1993	Cum. 1993	1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1992	1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1992	
UNITED STATES	424	1	110	-	17	1,900	1,270	16	854	80	1,215	712	2	100	99	
NEW ENGLAND	29	1	46	-	4	41	78	1	7	41	331	66	-	1	5	
N.H.	4	-	-	-	-	- 9	5 11	-	-	- 27	8 190	20	-	-	-	
Vt.	1	-	30	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	42	-	-	-	-	
R.I.	2	-	-	-	1	20	41	-	2	-	2		-	-	4	
Conn.	11	1	9	-	-	4	16	1	3	14	32	11	-	-	1	
MID. ATLANTIC	80	-	6	-	2	205	158	1	60	-	177	73	1	28	11	
N.Y. City	20	-	2	-	-	40	19	-	- 22	-	12	23	-	17	-	
N.J.	20	-	4	-	1	54	21 47	-	8 30	-	21 71	18 23	-	6	2	
ΕΝ ΓΕΝΤΡΔΙ	29		1			32	170	2	128	5	166	23 54		2	7	
Ohio	6	-	-	-	-	5	53	1	53	5	108	15	-	1	-	
Ind.	4 14	U	-	U		19 5	27 51	U	3 27	U	24 15	12	U		-7	
Mich.	5	-	-	-	-	2	38	1	45	-	16	2	-	1	-	
Wis.	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	16	-	-	-	
W.N. CENTRAL Minn.	13 3	-	1	-	2	6 5	/8 2	-	24	4	84 43	49 15	-	1	5	
lowa	1	-	-	-	-	1	15	-	7	-	1	1	-	-	-	
No. N. Dak.	3	-	1	-	-		30	-	12	-	21	20	-	-	- 1	
S. Dak.	2		-		-	-	3		-		1	3		-	-	
Nebr. Kans.	1	U -	-	U -	- 2	-	4 21	U -	- 1	U -	5 11	2	U -	-	4	
S. ATLANTIC	122	-	20	-	3	112	257	3	275	9	121	60	-	7	7	
Del.	1	-	3	-	-	1	10	-	4	-	1	- 12	-	2	-	
D.C.	5	-	-	-	-	- 15	23 4	-	49	5 1	41	12	-	-	4	
Va.	8	-	-	-	1	11	20	-	14	1	10	4	-	-	-	
N.C.	68	-	-	-	-	24	44	1	157	-	20	14	-	-	-	
S.C.	-	-	-	-	-	29	20 60	-	13	-	5	7	-	-	-	
Fla.	22	-	17	-	-	32	66	1	23	2	31	15	-	4	3	
E.S. CENTRAL	9	-	1	-	-	432	80	-	32	3	50	12	-	-	1	
Ky. Tenn	- 5	-	-	-	-	415	16 16	-	- 9	- 2	3 30	- 5	-	-	- 1	
Ala.	2	-	1	-	-		29	-	18	1	16	7	-	-	-	
Miss.	2	-	-	-	-	17	19	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	
W.S. CENTRAL Ark	11	-	1	-	-	975	102 12	5	121	1	32	100	-	12	6	
La.	-	-	1	-	-	-	24	1	11	-	5	-	-	1	-	
Tex.	4 5	-	-	-	-	964	9 57	4	2 104	-	12	81	-	10	- 6	
MOUNTAIN	12	-	2	-	-	12	110	_	35	2	80	105	-	4	3	
Mont.	2	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Wyo.	-	-	-	-	-	- 1	2	-	5	-	15	14	-	-	-	
Colo.	7	-	2	-	-	11	15	- N	8	2	28	21	-	-	-	
Ariz.	-	-	-	-	-	-	61	-	6	-	19	37	-	1	- 1	
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	3	-	7	5	-	1	1	
	- 110	-	- 32	-	-	- 85	, 237	-	172	- 15	174	103	-	45	- 54	
Wash.	13	-	- 52	-	-	10	35	-	8	1	19	51	-	-	6	
Oreg. Calif	3 101	-	- 22	-	- 1	42	19 165	N 4	N 145	1 13	3 142	13 121	-	1 23	1 34	
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	9	10	-	5	-	3	-	-	1	-	
Hawaii	2	-	10	-	5	24	8	-	14	-	7	8	1	20	13	
Guam P.R.	1	U -	2 122	U -	-	10 222	1 6	U -	6 1	U -	- 1	- 9	U -	-	1	
V.I.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Amer. Samoa C.N.M.I.	-	-	1	-	- 1	-	-	-	- 11	-	2	6 1	-	-	-	

TABLE II. (Cont'd.) Cases of selected notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending June 19, 1993, and June 13, 1992 (24th Week)

*For measles only, imported cases include both out-of-state and international importations. N: Not notifiable U: Unavailable [†] International [§] Out-of-state

Reporting Area	Syp (Primary &	hilis Secondary)	Toxic- Shock Syndrome	Tuber	culosis	Tula- remia	Typhoid Fever	Typhus Fever (Tick-borne) (RMSF)	Rabies, Animal
	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1992	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1992	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1993
UNITED STATES	12,187	15,814	113	9,201	9,408	42	153	64	3,664
NEW ENGLAND	184	309	7	193	148	-	13	2	609
N.H.	21	23	2	4	-	-	-	-	29
Vt. Mass	1 83	1 149	- 3	3 116	3 64	-	- 11	- 2	15 217
R.I.	7	16	1	28	13	-	-	-	-
Conn.	/0	120	-	35	55	-	2	-	348
Upstate N.Y.	1,138	2,220	12	2,034 189	2,278 298	-	44 9	4 1	1,332 989
N.Y. City	541 167	1,214	1	1,226	1,319	-	26	- 2	-
Pa.	327	507	9	301	278	-	3	1	145
E.N. CENTRAL	1,931	2,291	36	968	922	3	14	5	33
Ohio	554 168	334 111	15 1	140 100	149 80	1	5 1	4	3
III.	729	1,021	5	487	460	-	4	1	4
Mich. Wis.	297 183	457 368	15	202 39	197 36	1	4	-	2 24
W.N. CENTRAL	747	637	8	203	219	12	2	6	169
Minn.	14	42	2	26	50 21	-	-	-	21
Mo.	619	476	-	113	93	3	2	4	5
N. Dak. S. Dak	- 1	1	-	2	3 14	-7	-	- 2	36 19
Nebr.	7	17	-	8	13	-	-	-	2
Kans.	/4	81	2	27	25	2	-	-	55
S. ATLANTIC Del.	3,307 63	4,421 109	12	1,589	1,749	-	18	21	980 75
Md.	177	342	-	173	120	-	3	1	290
Va.	304	378	2	176	125	-	- 1	2	0 188
W. Va.	3 013	9 1 079	- 3	40 212	29 228	-	-	- 11	40 37
S.C.	516	594	-	190	188	-	-	1	80
Ga. Fla	569 578	903 802	- 6	352 348	397 582	- 1	1 12	1 4	222 42
E.S. CENTRAL	1.718	2.078	4	645	683	3	2	6	45
Ky.	143	66	2	176	180	-	-	3	7
Ala.	499 392	837	1	219	164	2	- 2	-	- 38
Miss.	684	614	-	106	147	-	-	2	-
W.S. CENTRAL	2,594 451	2,674 415	1	943 82	915 71	17 10	2	18	294 15
La.	1,105	1,173	-	-	87	-	1	-	-
Okla. Tex.	177 861	116 970	1	151 710	62 695	4	- 1	18	55 224
MOUNTAIN	105	195	7	200	241	1	4	2	45
Mont.	1	3	- 1	5	- 12	-	-	-	9
Wyo.	4	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	6
Colo. N. Mex	31 17	28 19	1	8 18	17 39	-	3	-	1
Ariz.	45	97	1	108	111	-	1	-	25
Utah Nev.	2 5	5 41	3 1	11 43	33 29	-	-	-	- 1
PACIFIC	463	989	16	2,426	2,253	5	54	-	157
Wash.	25	49	2	118	137	1	4	-	-
Calif.	387	23 910	14	2,118	40 1,924	2	48	-	141
Alaska Hawaii	2	3	-	19 121	36 110	-	- 2	-	16
Guam	ے 1	4	-	28	34	-	-	-	-
P.R.	258	130	-	64	120	-	-	-	22
V.I. Amer. Samoa	26	28	-	2 1	3	-	-	-	-
C.N.M.I.	2	4	-	16	14	-	-	-	-

TABLE II. (Cont'd.) Cases of selected notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending June 19, 1993, and June 13, 1992 (24th Week)

U: Unavailable

	All Causes, By Age (Years)						P&I [†]		All Causes, By Age (Years)						P&I [†]
Reporting Area	All Ages	≥65	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	Total	Reporting Area	All Ages	≥65	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	Total
NEW ENGLAND Boston, Mass. Bridgeport, Conn. Cambridge, Mass. Fall River, Mass. Hartford, Conn. Lowell, Mass. Lynn, Mass. New Bedford, Mass New Haven, Conn. Providence, R.I. Somerville, Mass. Springfield, Mass. Waterbury, Conn.	559 140 37 11 32 50 22 17 5. 36 39 44 8 42 27	384 84 22 8 23 32 11 33 20 36 6 28 23	92 28 7 2 6 8 3 5 2 10 4 1 9	51 12 5 1 2 9 1 1 4 4 - 3 1	11 2 2 - - - - 4 - - 1	21 14 1 - 1 - 1 2 1	43 17 4 2 1 1 2 2 1 5 2	S. ATLANTIC Atlanta, Ga. Baltimore, Md. Charlotte, N.C. Jacksonville, Fla. Miami, Fla. Norfolk, Va. Richmond, Va. Savannah, Ga. St. Petersburg, Fla. Tampa, Fla. Washington, D.C. Wilmington, Del.	872 U 183 95 111 107 63 65 42 56 143 56 143 U 7	579 U 116 63 66 67 42 41 34 43 103 U 4	158 U 32 23 25 18 7 12 6 7 27 U 1 27	90 U 27 4 12 16 11 7 1 3 8 U 1	24 U 4 4 1 1 1 2 3 U	20 U 4 1 3 2 2 4 - 1 2 U 1 2	47 U 18 4 2 - 6 3 2 4 8 U
Worcester, Mass. MID. ATLANTIC Albany, N.Y. Allentown, Pa. Buffalo, N.Y. Camden, N.J. Elizabeth, N.J. Erie, Pa.§	54 2,716 55 25 100 30 13 48	40 1,811 41 19 76 16 7 36	6 492 9 4 16 8 3 6	7 259 4 - 3 1 3 6	1 69 2 3 2 -	81 1 2 3 -	6 115 2 - 1 3 - 1	Birmingham, Ala. Chattanooga, Tenn. Knoxville, Tenn. Lexington, Ky. Memphis, Tenn. Mobile, Ala. Montgomery, Ala. Nashville, Tenn.	129 54 96 66 204 51 51 122	477 77 38 63 39 133 34 36 79	133 23 10 21 15 39 13 9 23	15 6 7 6 15 3 9	20 6 2 4 6 1 2 5	3 8 3 2 11 - 1 6	3 4 5 3 22 4 2 7
Jersey City, N.J. New York City, N.Y. Newark, N.J. Paterson, N.J. Philadelphia, Pa. Pittsburgh, Pa.§ Reading, Pa. Rochester, N.Y. Schenectady, N.Y. Scranton, Pa.§ Syracuse, N.Y. Trenton, N.J. Utica, N.Y. Yonkers, N.Y.	62 1,307 72 25 494 97 10 127 29 27 110 34 28 23	36 829 36 17 339 69 8 91 23 20 82 21 25 20	15 247 16 3 89 16 - 24 4 5 14 10 2 1	9 157 3 - 44 5 2 7 2 - 7 3 1 2	1 29 8 3 14 2 - 1 - - - -	1 45 8 7 5 1 1 7 7	4 47 5 27 6 - 1 9 3 - 1	W.S. CENTRAL Austin, Tex. Baton Rouge, La. Corpus Christi, Tex. Dallas, Tex. El Paso, Tex. Houston, Tex. Houston, Tex. Little Rock, Ark. New Orleans, La. San Antonio, Tex. Shreveport, La. Tulsa, Okla.	1,354 72 30 55 200 44 76 367 126 183 36 98	849 51 21 37 116 28 56 212 36 82 118 25 67	247 17 3 11 33 10 7 76 13 19 37 5 16	169 4 31 3 56 10 17 4 12	58 1 2 11 5 17 3 8 8 1 1	31 1 2 9 2 - 6 5 - 3 1 2	66 5 4 4 25 4 12 3 1
E.N. CENTRAL Akron, Ohio Canton, Ohio Chicago, III. Cincinnati, Ohio Columbus, Ohio Dayton, Ohio Detroit, Mich. Evansville, Ind. Fort Wayne, Ind. Gary, Ind. Grand Rapids, Mict Indianapolis, Ind. Madison, Wis. Milwaukee, Wis. Peoria, III. Rockford, III. South Bend, Ind. Toledo, Ohio Youngstown, Ohio W.N. CENTRAL	1,976 60 40 274 115 149 148 126 240 43 65 34 13 13 13 13 13 50 52 104 62 820	1,286 41 34 122 76 87 149 37 51 8 30 105 27 105 27 105 27 31 33 42 733 50 598	363 13 58 228 32 25 46 2 8 2 7 43 3 19 12 7 6 18 7 7 37	184 2 7 7 17 8 30 2 3 2 2 8 3 10 - 8 3 10 - 8 3 10 - 8 3 10 - 8 3 10 - 8 3 10 - 11 - 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	78 363 4 32 6 - 2 1 10 1 1 1 1 6 2 17	65 4 1 6 7 8 7 4 9 2 1 - 9 - 3 - 1 - 1 2 25	96 15 88 2 10 7 9 3 6 - 2 7 5 9 2 - 5 5 2 45	MOUNTAIN Albuquerque, N.M. Colo. Springs, Colo Denver, Colo. Las Vegas, Nev. Ogden, Utah Phoenix, Ariz. Pueblo, Colo. Salt Lake City, Utah Tucson, Ariz. PACIFIC Berkeley, Calif. Fresno, Calif. Glendale, Calif. Honolulu, Hawaii Long Beach, Calif. Dasadena, Calif. Portland, Oreg. Sacramento, Calif. San Diego, Calif. San Francisco, Calif.	818 73 97 149 30 162 29 101 133 1,792 14 78 27 98 84 379 44 129 130 186 6. 163	535 44 26 63 93 20 102 199 65 103 1,178 10 50 22 67 51 245 26 97 85 133 82	164 14 10 155 9 33 9 19 20 309 3 12 2 18 18 48 15 26 8 15 26 31	64 8 50 10 17 1 9 4 201 10 1 8 9 49 5 11 10 23 34	33 7 1 4 7 1 6 - 4 3 55 - 2 1 1 1 1 4 2 2 6 4 10	22 54 4 4 3 44 4 5 3 3 4 3 5 6	63 1 2 7 4 17 1 9 99 3 1 5 6 13 3 8 7 17 2
Des Moines, Iowa Duluth, Minn. Kansas City, Kans. Kansas City, Mo. Lincoln, Nebr. Minneapolis, Minn. Omaha, Nebr. St. Louis, Mo. St. Paul, Minn. Wichita, Kans.	94 20 22 134 205 87 121 62 55	68 15 11 106 10 156 61 90 45 36	137 2 8 17 7 34 16 17 13 6	³ 2126384926	4 1 3 - 2 1 - 1 4	23 3 1 - 2 - 5 5 5 1 3	4 1 7 15 4 3 8 2	San Jose, Calif. Santa Cruz, Calif. Seattle, Wash. Spokane, Wash. Tacoma, Wash. TOTAL	197 33 109 48 73 11,680 [¶]	126 25 73 34 52 7,719	45 4 20 9 13 2,115	19 4 12 2 4 1,125	6 2 1 3 371	1 2 2 1 340	14 1 5 3 1 624

TABLE III. Deaths in 121 U.S. cities,* week ending June 19, 1993 (24th Week)

*Mortality data in this table are voluntarily reported from 121 cities in the United States, most of which have populations of 100,000 or more. A death is reported by the place of its occurrence and by the week that the death certificate was filed. Fetal deaths are not included. Pneumonia and influenza.

⁹Because of changes in reporting methods in these 3 Pennsylvania cities, these numbers are partial counts for the current week. Complete counts will be available in 4 to 6 weeks. ¹Total includes unknown ages.

U: Unavailable.

In Lisungwe, mortality data were collected by Malawian health surveillance assistants and compiled by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)/France, a private voluntary organization. From January through September 1992, the average daily CMR ranged from 1.0 to 3.6 per 10,000 population. For children aged <5 years, the daily death rate peaked in June at 5.0 per 10,000 population. CMRs in Lisungwe were compared with those in Chifunga, a neighboring camp with comparable environmental conditions and a similar surveillance system but that had not received new arrivals during 1992. From January through September, the monthly CMR in Lisungwe was 4.5 times higher than that in Chifunga.

Cause-Specific Mortality

In both Chambuta and Lisungwe, diarrhea (including cholera-associated), dehydration, malnutrition, and measles accounted for 75% of all reported deaths. In both camps, diarrhea-specific death rates were substantial (1.5 and 1.6 per 10,000 per day in Chambuta and Lisungwe, respectively), and coverage rates for household latrines were low: in August 1992, latrines were present in approximately 22% of households in Chambuta and 13% of households in Lisungwe. The daily measles-specific death rate was higher in Chambuta (0.9 per 10,000) than in Lisungwe (0.1 per 10,000).

Prevention Effectiveness

The costs were determined for programs to prevent deaths associated with measles and diarrheal disease in Chambuta and Lisungwe. The cost for measles vaccine provided by UNICEF and administered using disposable syringes was 30¢ U.S. per 0.5-cc dose delivered (*2*). Assuming that 8170 children aged <15 years arrived during January–July 1992*, the estimated cost of vaccinating all eligible children in Chambuta (new arrivals aged 6 months–15 years and children reaching the age of 6 months while in the camp) during January–September 1992 would have been \$2451, plus \$708 for the cost of two full-time health workers to administer vaccine. During June and July, measles caused 113 deaths in this largely unvaccinated population.[†] Assuming a vaccination rate of 90% and a two-dose schedule for children aged <9 months (resulting in a vaccine efficacy of 85%), the cost of averting 86 of the 113 measles deaths would have been approximately \$37 per death.

The presence of a latrine in the residential setting reduces diarrhea-associated morbidity and mortality by approximately 36% (3). In Malawian camps, the cost of an installed latrine, using refugee-donated labor, is \$8. Thus, the cost of providing a latrine to each household in Lisungwe from January through August would have been \$54,309 and would have averted 54 deaths[§] and 1408 (36%) of 3911 reported episodes, an investment of approximately \$1004 for each death averted and \$38 for each diarrheal episode averted. Assuming that the CMR remained constant through 1992 (based on the mean January–August CMR), then declined to 0.5 per 10,000 per day

^{*} There were approximately 19,000 new arrivals during this period. Based on the demographics of a neighboring camp (Tongo Garra) for which information was available, an estimated 43% of the population would be <15 years of age on arrival and >6 months of age by July 1992.

of the population would be <15 years of age on arrival and >6 months of age by July 1992. [†]The measles-specific death rate during July 25–August 13, 1992, was 0.9 per 10,000 per day, equivalent to 2.7 per 1000 per month. The mean camp population was assumed to be 19,000 in June and 23,000 in July, based on camp administrative data.

[§]Based on estimated mid-month populations and reported CMRs. Based on June data, it was assumed that 45% of all deaths were from some form of diarrheal disease. None of the malnutrition-associated deaths were assumed to be preventable through sanitation. Of the estimated 7803 families in Lisungwe at the end of August, 6789 (87%) did not have a latrine.

and that the fraction of deaths attributable to diarrhea remained constant over time, the cost per death averted would be \$85 over the 5-year expected duration of the latrine[¶]. This analysis does not consider the other social and health-related benefits associated with latrine availability (3,4).

In both Zimbabwe and Malawi, the severe drought diminished food supplies available for established resident populations and strained medical and social programs for citizens of both countries. Because of the problems these conditions posed for the Malawian and Zimbabwean governments and for international and nongovernmental relief organizations, recommended measures included 1) accelerating efforts to ensure that every child aged 6 months–15 years is vaccinated against measles on arrival in a camp; 2) increasing resources for family latrine construction; and 3) providing refugees in reception centers with adequate soap, water, buckets, latrines, and shelter.

Reported by: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; Regional Medical Office, Ministry of Health; Médecins Sans Frontières, Blantyre, Malawi. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; Ministry of Health, Harare, Zimbabwe. Bur for Refugee Programs, Washington, DC. Technical Support Div, International Health Program Office, CDC.

Editorial Note: In Africa, an estimated 5 million refugees have fled war and civil conflict in their homelands. In addition, more than 10 million persons are "internally displaced" in countries such as Liberia, Mozambique, Somalia, and Sudan. The high death rates and the major causes of death among refugees newly arrived from Mozambique are consistent with rates reported for other refugee populations in Africa during the early phase of displacement (*5*).

Diarrheal diseases and measles are particular health risks for refugee populations in Africa. Enteric pathogens may be spread in refugee camps because of exposure to human excrement resulting from insufficient availability of latrines, water supplies, and other sanitation resources (i.e, buckets and soap). In addition, the crowded conditions of refugee camps may promote the transmission of measles and other contagious diseases (6).

The prompt and complete vaccination of susceptible children against measles may be difficult in the setting of massive influxes of new refugees. For example, in Chambuta, many new arrivals may not have been screened or vaccinated because camp health staff were often overwhelmed by such influxes and could not arrange for vaccination coverage. In Lisungwe, most new arrivals aged 6 months–12 years were vaccinated against measles, but deaths may have occurred among persons who had been infected in Mozambique and had entered the camp while already incubating measles.

Cost estimates in this report indicate that targeting prevention efforts to refugee populations can be highly cost effective. In the camps in Malawi and Zimbabwe, the estimated cost per death averted was 10–100 times less than World Bank estimates for averting measles and diarrhea-associated deaths through country-wide programs (7). To ensure that cost-effective services can be readily provided, even during fluctuating and acute emergencies, refugee health programs should incorporate detailed contin-

¹This assumes that 1) the mean January–September CMR of 0.7 per 10,000 per day contnued through the end of 1992; and 2) the 45,000 efugees who had arrived through August (and who were provided with latrines) had a constant CMR of 0.5 per 10,000 per day during the years 1993–1996, based on the CMR reported in the nearby stableChifunga camp during 1992 and among nonrefugee Mozambicans in 1989 (1).

gency plans and emphasize the importance of basic preventive services, such as those described in this report (i.e., vaccination programs and latrine construction).

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Emerging Infectious Diseases

Update: Outbreak of Hantavirus Infection — Southwestern United States, 1993

Since May 1993, the New Mexico Department of Health, the Arizona Department of Health, the Colorado Department of Health, the Utah Department of Health, the Indian Health Service, and CDC, with the assistance of the Navajo Nation Division of Health, have been investigating an outbreak of illness associated with hantavirus infection (1,2). This report updates information regarding the relation between illness and infection with a previously unrecognized hantavirus.

Through June 21, laboratory evidence of hantavirus infection had been confirmed in 12 patients meeting the case definition (*2*); of these, nine (75%) persons have died. Of the 12 cases, nine occurred in New Mexico, two in Arizona, and one in Colorado. Ten (83%) cases occurred in persons aged 20–40 years. Similar illnesses in an additional 20 persons, eight of whom died, are being investigated for possible hantavirus infection. As of June 21, cases of acute illness associated with hantavirus infection had been documented only in persons residing in Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico.

The laboratory evidence of hantavirus infection in the 12 case-patients includes demonstration of antibody to hantavirus antigens (eight case-patients), immunohistochemical evidence of hantavirus antigen in autopsy specimens (five case-patients), and amplification of hantavirus-specific RNA sequences by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) performed on RNA extracted from autopsy specimens (three case-patients). Hantavirus-related antigens were immunohistochemically detected in formalin-fixed lung and kidney tissue using a monoclonal antibody that cross-reacts with conserved hantavirus nucleoprotein epitopes (*3*). Immunostaining did not occur when a battery of other hantavirus-specific monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies was used for case-

Hantavirus Infection — Continued

patients. Immunostaining did not occur with any of the monoclonal antibodies for tissue from seven persons who died from other illnesses.

Since June 6, 191 animals of 12 species have been collected from peridomestic settings in areas where cases have occurred and tested for evidence of hantavirus antibodies at CDC. Hantavirus antibodies were present in 32 (30%) of 107 deer mice (*Peromyscus maniculatus*), one (9%) of 11 piñon mice (*P. truei*), and one (2%) of 48 chipmunks (*Eutamias dorsalis*).

Hantavirus sequences from nine (75%) of 12 antibody-positive *Peromyscus* rodents have been amplified using PCR. Nucleotide sequence analysis of amplified DNA products from three PCR-positive humans and six PCR-positive *Peromyscus* rodents are closely related and provide a direct genetic link between the hantavirus sequence in the rodents and in the human case-patients.

Reported by: F Koster, MD, H Levy, MD, G Mertz, MD, A Cushing, MD, S Young, PhD, K Foucar, MD, J McLaughlin, PhD, B Bryt, MD, Univ of New Mexico School of Medicine, T Merlin, MD, Lovelace Medical Center, Albuquerque; R Zumwalt, MD, P McFeeley, MD, K Nolte, MD, New Mexico Office of the Medical Investigator; MJ Burkhardt, MPH, Secretary of Health, N Kalishman, MD, M Gallaher, MD, R Voorhees, MD, M Samuel, DrPH, M Tanuz, G Simpson, MD, L Hughes, PhD, E Umland, MD, G Oty, MS, L Nims, MS, CM Sewell, DrPH, State Epidemiologist, New Mexico Dept of Health. R Levinson, MD, F Yerger, MD, B Allan, MD, Scottsdale; P Rubin, Phoenix; L Sands, DO, K Komatsu, MPH, C Kioski, MPH, K Fleming, MA, J Doll, PhD, C Levy, MS, TM Fink, P Murphy, B England, MD, M Smolinski, MD, B Erickson, PhD, WSlanta, G Gellert, MD, State Epidemiologist, Arizona Dept of Health Svcs. P Shillam, MSPH, RE Hoffman, MD, State Epidemiologist, Colorado Dept of Health. S Lanser, MPH, CR Nichols, MPA, State Epidemiologist, Utah Dept of Health. L Hubbard-Pourier, MPH, Div of Health, Navajo Nation, Window Rock, Arizona. J Cheek, MD, A Craig, MD, R Haskins, MPH, B Muneta, MD, B Tempest, MD, M Carroll, MD, LA Shands, MPH, JP Sarisky, MPH, RE Turner, L White, P Bohan, MS, Indian Health Svc. Div of Field Epidemiology, Epidemiology Program Office; National Center for Environmental Health; Div of Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases, Div of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases, Scientific Resources Program, and Div of Viral and Rickettsial Diseases, National Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC.

Editorial Note: The patterns of cross-reactivity in the human convalescent and rodent serum specimens, the pattern of immunohistochemical reactivity, and the clinical syndrome in which adult respiratory distress syndrome is a prominent feature of the disease (1,2) suggest that a previously unrecognized hantavirus is responsible for this outbreak. Additional studies of sequences from the viral genome and studies of the virus, once it is isolated, will be necessary for further characterization of the agent.

The high prevalence of hantavirus antibodies in the deer mice and the similarity of PCR products in the deer mice and human case-patients suggest that this species may be involved in hantavirus transmission to humans. Studies of other rodent species have been initiated. *P. maniculatus* is distributed in all parts of the United States, except in the Southeast (4). Although serologic evidence of hantavirus infection was detected during 1985 in 11 (5%) of 218 *P. maniculatus* rodents collected from California, Colorado, and New Mexico (5), additional studies are needed to determine the current distribution of hantavirus infection in *Peromyscus* species in the United States.

Previously described transmission of hantavirus infection has been associated with exposure to rodent excreta and saliva; evidence thus far suggests rodents also are likely the primary source of infection for the hantavirus associated with this outbreak. Reports concerning previously identified hantaviruses have not documented personto-person transmission of these viruses, nor has there been evidence of

Hantavirus Infection — Continued

person-to-person transmission in the current outbreak. Nonetheless, an investigation of contacts of case-patients, including health-care workers, has been initiated along with other studies of risk factors for infection in this outbreak.

The findings implicating a hantavirus in this outbreak and knowledge regarding modes of hantavirus transmission support the previous recommendation that restriction of travel to areas affected by this outbreak is not considered necessary. However, activities that may disrupt rodent burrows or result in contact with rodents or aerosolization of rodent excreta should be avoided (1).

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Notice to Readers

Availability of Streptomycin and Para-Aminosalicylic Acid — United States

Since April 1992, CDC has distributed streptomycin to more than 1000 patients with active tuberculosis under an Investigational New Drug (IND) agreement until licensed, domestic production of streptomycin could be reestablished in the United States. In April 1993, the Food and Drug Administration issued a license allowing Pfizer Inc. to produce and distribute streptomycin. Beginning July 6, 1993, CDC will no longer accept new requests from clinicians to place their patients on streptomycin. Such requests should be directed to Richard Vastola, Roerig Streptomycin Program, Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 235 E. 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017; telephone (800) 254-4445. CDC will continue to resupply any patients enrolled in the IND protocol before July 6, 1993, until they have completed their course of streptomycin therapy. Until further notice, CDC will continue to supply para-aminosalicylic acid under a separate IND agreement.

Additional information concerning streptomycin or para-aminosalicylic acid is available from CDC's Drug Service, Scientific Resources Program, National Center for Infectious Diseases, telephone (404) 639-3670.

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