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Communicable Disease Report 2552

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Weekly Edition CDR 83/18

WEEK 18 - W/E 6th May 1983

INSERT: Diphtheria in West Germany (FRG)
Salmonella incidents in animals: January-March 1983

4-WEEKLY SUMMARIES: Bacteraemia and bacterial meningitis: table 3, p.6
Mycobacterial infections: weeks 83/15-18, p.6

REVIEW: Yersinia enterocolitica infections 1980-82, p.5

THIS WEEK

Occasional patients with influenza are still being identified. Rubella continues to be reported from many parts of the country. An outbreak of winter vomiting associated with small round structured virus particles is reported. A farmers wife with Chlamydia psittaci infection has had a miscarriage. A large outbreak of food poisoning due to Salmonella typhimurium DT 135 has been associated with chicken. There are still more reports of serious Haemophilus influenzae infections than usual. The number of patients with acute meningococcal disease, however, continues at a lower level.

*Mr Gordon
This is the
but you might
be interested in
p. 2653*

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome has been reported in a 20 year-old man with haemophilia in Cardiff. For three months he has had oro-pharyngeal and oesophageal candida infection and has recently been treated in hospital for epididymo-orchitis. He has lymphopenia and a low T-helper/suppressor ratio. There is no known underlying cause of immunosuppression. This is the first report of AIDS in a patient with haemophilia in the United Kingdom known to CDSC.

ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS)

Guidelines for prevention of acquired immune deficiency syndrome have been published in MMWR (Mortality and Morbidity Weekly Report) for 3 November and 4 March 1983 by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health (USA). This journal is now less widely distributed. By arrangement CDSC will supply copies of these guidelines to medical readers of the CDR in the UK on request.

FIFTH DISEASE: ENFIELD

Approximately 80 children attending a primary school in Enfield, Middlesex have developed fifth disease (slapped cheek syndrome) since mid-March. Cases have also been reported from 3 other primary schools in the area. An epidemiological investigation is in progress.

BRITISH PAEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION-CDSC PAEDIATRIC SURVEILLANCE SCHEME

The Reye syndrome surveillance scheme has now been in operation for eighteen months. The first annual report was presented to members of the BPA at their annual conference in April and will be published in the CDR soon.

Recently, the reporting scheme has been extended to include: Haemolytic uraemic syndrome, Kawasaki disease and Haemolytic shock encephalopathy syndrome. The objectives of the scheme are to document the basic epidemiology of all four conditions, to maintain surveillance of their incidence and to provide centralised case registers, serum and tissue banks.

CDSC would be grateful if paediatricians could report, as promptly as possible, patients having or suspected of having any of the above conditions. Case report forms listing the diagnostic criteria for each condition are available from CDSC and have been supplied to members of the BPA.