

LOUISIANA MONTHLY MORBIDITY

DISEASES REPORTED DURING MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1969

BY PARISH OF RESIDENCE

NEW REVISION TO SANITARY CODE REQUIRES PRIVATE LABORATORIES TO REPORT POSITIVE TESTS FOR SYPHILIS

A new revision to Chapter I of the Sanitary Code recently approved by the State Board of Health requires that all laboratories report to the State Department of Health reactive serologic tests for syphilis and microscopic findings of *Treponema pallidum*. Physicians submitting specimens to the laboratories are required to submit sufficient information to identify the patient. Reports submitted in compliance with the regulation are confidential. Health Department follow-up shall be through the physicians submitting the specimens. In passing this regulation, the Board recognized the value of reactor reporting to the Health Department's Venereal Disease Control Program and also the legal protection the regulation provides to the Laboratory Directors for their actions. (Continued on Page 3).

Louisiana Department
Louisiana State Library

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DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS -

- LOUISIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

RELEASED December 4, 1969	ASEPTIC MENINGITIS	DIPHThERIA	ENCEPHALITIS	ENCEPHALITIS, POST INFECTIONOUS	INFECTIONOUS AND SERUM HEPATITIS	MEASLES	MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS	PERTUSSIS	POLIOMYELITIS, PARALYTIC	RABIES IN ANIMALS	RHEUMATIC FEVER	STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTIONS	SHIGELLOSIS	TYPHOID FEVER	OTHER SALMONELLOSIS	TETANUS	TUBERCULOSIS, PULMONARY	GONORRHEA	SYPHILIS
TOTAL TO DATE 1968	155	42	64	10	680	25	91	10	0	40	20	467	69	6	162	10	887	7680	2302
TOTAL TO DATE 1969	53	32	35	4	830	125	97	13	0	39	14	274	40	4	300	7	687	9122	2134
TOTAL THIS MONTH	4	16	3	2	83	1	7	3	0	7	1	28	3	1	185	0	47	804	148
ACADIA					1												1	10	3
ALLEN																			
ASCENSION																			1
ASSUMPTION																	1	3	1
AVOUELLES					2														
BEAUREGARD																			
BIENVILLE					1														
BOSSIER																		9	
CADDO					1												1	51	11
CALCASIEU					4			3							2		2	30	
CALDWELL																			
CAMERON																			
CATAHOULA																			1
CLAIBORNE										3									
CONCORDIA																			
DESOTO																		3	
EAST BATON ROUGE					2		1						1		3		6	26	17
EAST CARROLL					1														
EAST FELICIANA																			2
EVANGELINE					1													1	5
FRANKLIN					2														1
GRANT																		3	
IBERIA																		2	2
IBERVILLE					3												1	3	1

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS -

- LOUISIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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JACKSON					2														1
JEFFERSON	1		3		2										7		3	53	9
JEFFERSON DAVIS							1											7	
LAFAYETTE		3			2												6	14	
LAFourCHE					1							18					1	8	
LASALLE																			
LINCOLN					2													18	3
LIVINGSTON																		4	
MADISON					1														3
MOREHOUSE					2														2
NATCHITOCHES					1												2	6	
ORLEANS		4		2	23		4				1	1			171		14	341	59
OUACHITA					9					1				1			1	40	5
PLAQUEMINES		1											1		1		2	1	2
POINTE COUPEE																		1	
RAPIDES					3													5	2
RED RIVER																			
RICHLAND					1													2	
SABINE																			1
ST. BERNARD		6			1							1	1		1				
ST. CHARLES												3							
ST. HELENA																			1
ST. JAMES					1													1	
ST. JOHN					1							1							1
ST. LANDRY					2												3	17	2
ST. MARTIN																		1	
ST. MARY		2			2														
ST. TAMMANY					1	1						1					1	9	
TANGIPAHOA							1											7	4
TENSAS																		1	
TERREBONNE		3			4							2						2	1
UNION					3														1
VERMILION																			
VERNON																	1	91	2
WASHINGTON					1												1	2	2
WEBSTER										3		1						5	
WEST BATON ROUGE																		6	
WEST CARROLL																			
WEST FELICIANA																		20	2
WINN																		1	
OUT OF STATE																			

From January 1 through November 30, 1969, the following cases were also reported:
 48 Malaria (contracted outside U.S.A.), 2 Brucellosis, 7 Leptospirosis, 4 Tularemia,
 1 Echinococcosis (Hydatid Disease), and 1 Cat Scratch Fever.

Also included in the revised code is a regulation requiring schools to report to the Health Department known or suspected cases of reportable diseases, and a provision making it mandatory for a person suspected of being infected with a communicable disease to submit to examination by a physician and to the collection of laboratory specimens or be subject to quarantine. Another provision requires custodians of medical records on patients known or suspected of being infected with communicable diseases to make such records available for review by the State Health Officer or his authorized representative. This provision is intended to give legal protection to Hospital Administrators and Medical Records Librarians for allowing authorized Health Department personnel to abstract essential information from records of patients hospitalized with communicable diseases.

SALMONELLA RIDES AGAIN!

Following the Iberia Parish Sheriff's Posse Trailride to Evangeline State Park on November 15, 1969, box suppers were handed out to 115 of the estimated 150 persons present. Over the next 3 days, approximately 90 persons developed severe gastrointestinal symptoms, 4 requiring hospitalization. The dinners of barbequed chicken, potato salad and rice dressing were prepared in the afternoon and loaded into a feed truck where they were covered with a blanket until served, 3 - 7 hours later, providing an opportunity for incubation. Cultures from patients and left-over items available for sampling, including chicken, rice dressing, and soiled paper plates, grew Salmonella typhimurium. Food consumption histories showed no significant differences in attack rates between food items; however, it was speculated that Salmonella introduced into the kitchen by either the chickens or unwashed country eggs contaminated the potato salad and/or rice dressing. Salmonella infantis was cultured from raw chickens at the market. Examination of the eggs is pending.

SALMONELLA FOOD POISONING OUTBREAK, NEW ORLEANS

Following a church supper on the evening of November 20, 1969, at least 193 persons developed gastroenteritis. Twenty-one persons were hospitalized. Two deaths occurred, both in elderly persons with other chronic illnesses. Bacteriological studies have not been completed, but Salmonella group C-1 has been isolated from the stools of several ill persons and from samples of food served at the dinner. The attack rate approached 100 per cent in those who ate any portion of the meal. Only one person was located who ate part of the meal and did not become ill, despite an intensive search for such individuals. Approximately 200 dinner tickets were sold. Food histories of 72 persons tended to incriminate fried chicken and potato salad as the vehicles of infection. Bread dressing, green peas, bread, cookies and punch were also served.

Onset of symptoms occurred 1 to 53 hours (mean 12.7 hours) after ingestion of the food, but 46 of 70 persons had incubation periods of 12 hours or less. All of the ill persons experienced diarrhea. Fever and vomiting were both present in 82 per cent of the cases.

PSITTACOSIS

Memorandum dated November 21, 1969 from David J. Sencer, M.D., Assistant Surgeon General, USPHS

The National Communicable Disease Center has recently isolated the agent of psittacosis from a bird which was one of a large lot of birds held at Safari Animal Imports, Inc., Miami, Florida, beginning October 24, 1969. All birds in this lot were destroyed November 7; however, an unknown number of other birds may have been in the same building at the same time. At this time we do not have information on the destination of birds shipped from this concern during the time period October 24 to the present. However, it is presumed that birds from this source may have been exposed to psittacosis during this time period. Although we have no way of knowing the extent of possible infection of these birds, we feel it important that you be aware of such a possibility so that surveillance can be considered.

Louisiana State



Department of Health

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICE BUILDING

P. O. BOX 60630

New Orleans, La. 70160

ANDREW HEDMEG, M.D., M.P.H.
STATE HEALTH OFFICER

January 9, 1970

Dear Doctor:

The diseases listed below are declared to be dangerous to the public health and preventable, and are hereby made reportable in accordance with Chapter I of the Sanitary Code State of Louisiana as revised on October 25, 1969:

Amebiasis	Mycobacteriosis (Atypical Acid-fast)
Anthrax	PLAGUE *
Aseptic Meningitis	Poliomyelitis
BOTULISM *	Psittacosis
Brucellosis	Rabies, Human
Chancroid	Rat Bites
CHOLERA *	Rheumatic Fever
Diphtheria	Rubella and Congenital Rubella Syndrome (Specify)
Encephalitis (Specify Type)	Salmonellosis (Excluding Typhoid)
FOOD POISONING *	Shigellosis
Gonorrhea and	SMALLPOX *
Ophthalmia Neonatorum (Specify)	Syphilis
Granuloma Inguinale	Tetanus
Hepatitis, Infectious and	Trichinosis
Serum (Specify)	Tuberculosis
Leprosy	Tularemia
Leptospirosis	Typhoid
Lymphopathia Venereum	Typhus (Specify Type)
Malaria	Whooping Cough (Pertussis)
MEASLES *	YELLOW FEVER *
Meningococcal Infections	
Mumps	

* Report suspected cases immediately by telephone

In addition to the above, all cases of rare or exotic communicable disease and all outbreaks shall be reported.

When a report of a disease is made as required by these regulations, it should be made to your local health unit as promptly as possible from the time you first visit, examine, or prescribe for the patient, and should state the patient's name, age, sex, race, address, disease, and date of onset. Forms are provided by your local health unit for the purpose of reporting.

For the purpose of assisting you in diagnosing the above diseases, specific laboratory tests are available to you through our Bureau of Laboratories with locations in New Orleans, Alexandria, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe and Shreveport.

Sincerely yours,

Andrew Hedmeg, M.D., M.P.H.
Acting State Health Officer

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