

Louisiana



Reported Morbidity
July, 1981

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES
OFFICE OF HEALTH SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
BOX 60630 NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160

MONTHLY MORBIDITY REPORT

Provisional Statistics

PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS and
DIVISION OF DISEASE CONTROL

TUBERCULOSIS IN LOUISIANA

(continued from June 1981 issue)

Tuberculosis Control

Tuberculosis control activities are aimed at interrupting the cycle of tuberculosis infection and disease development (as was diagrammed in Part I) through:

1. the identification and treatment of cases to prevent transmission of infection to other persons.
2. the preventive treatment of new and potential new

infections identified through contact investigations.

Case Follow Up

The caseload of the active Tuberculosis register is about 1,200 cases, most of them at home. At any given time there are about 60 cases hospitalized (5% of all cases). Thirty per cent of the caseload is in New Orleans. Case register evaluation data show that there is an urgent need to improve follow up and documentation:

(continued on page 2)

BULLETIN

CHOLERA AGAIN

Following the 11 cases of *Vibrio cholerae* 01 El Tor Inaba in Louisiana in the fall of 1978 (NEJM 302: 305-309, 1980), no further clinical or environmental isolates were obtained until September 1980. At that time an identical organism was isolated from one of two sewage treatment plants in Lake Charles; no human case was discovered. This summer (1981) there have been 2 cases of cholera in Texas, the first in Beaumont on May 7 and the second in Orange on June 21. The latter case proved fatal. On June 23, 1981, the Lake Charles sewage treatment plant was again positive for *V. cholerae* 01, indicating the probable occurrence of an undiagnosed human case in that city. As all the above isolates are identical and of a phage type unique to the United States, it is likely that cholera is an endemic disease in South-west Louisiana and Southeast Texas. The greatest activity appears to be in the late summer and early

fall and may correlate with the shrimp season. The Department of Health and Human Resources has reinitiated extensive weekly monitoring of all public sewage treatment systems in South Louisiana in an attempt to identify occurrence of *V. cholerae*. All clinical laboratories in this region are urged to culture stool specimens on thiosulfate citrate bile salts sucrose (TCBS) in addition to the usual media. As we expect further cases of cholera to occur, we strongly recommend that physicians obtain rectal swabs or stool specimens from all patients with diarrhea and ask the laboratory to culture for *Vibrio cholerae*. Cary-Blair transport media is available to all physicians and laboratories through the public health units. We in the Division of Disease Control will be pleased to discuss this matter or answer any questions as they arise (504-568-5005).

Tuberculosis in Louisiana - (continued from page 1)

	Louisiana		United States Average
	1979	1980	
Cases under current treatment	47.2%	53.8%	85.2%
Cases with current bacteriology	30.2%	38.7%	71.4%
Cases with current medical review	50.1%	57.7%	86.4%
Cases completing recommended therapy within 24 months	60.9%	78.5%	75.0%

These unusually low performance figures are partially attributable to a lack in updating the register, and to inadequate follow up. There has been some improvement from 1979 to 1980 in the follow up of cases; however, further improvements are necessary.

A comparison of 1979 and 1980 contact investigation and follow up shows some improvements; however, a serious effort is necessary to improve the program.

	1979	1980	Objectives
New cases	647	577	—
Cases with 1 or more contacts	420	412	—
Percent of cases with contacts	64.9%	71.4%	95%
Contacts identified	1696	1944	—
Average number of contacts per case with contacts	4.0	4.7	
Contacts examined	1535	1708	—
Percent contacts examined	90.5%	87.9%	90%
Contacts not infected	988	1087	—
Percent contacts not infected placed on preventive treatment	29.8%	34.2%	90%
Contacts infected	499	581	—
Percent contacts infected	32.5%	34.0%	30-40%
Percent contacts infected placed on preventive treatment	73.5%	68.5%	90%

INH Prophylaxis of Non-Contacts

INH prophylaxis of infected persons (not contacts) also shows some improvements from 1979 to 1980.

	1979	1980	Objective
Infected persons examined	1627	1957	—
Placed on INH prophylaxis	1156	1572	—
Percent placed on INH prophylaxis			
Total	71.0%	80.3%	90%
Below 35	90%	88.2%	98%
35 and older	46%	65.9%	—

Screening for Tuberculosis

Screening for tuberculosis infection in order to identify reactors and to place them on INH prophylaxis has proven to be of extremely low yield.

In 1979, 97,240 tuberculin skin test were applied to non-contacts; only 74,956 were read (77.0%). Of these there were 3,183 infections diagnosed (4.2% of the skin test read) and only 1,156 (1.2%) were placed on INH.

This activity is to be given a lower priority than case follow up and contact investigation and prophylaxis.

A comparison of 1979 and 1980 shows that definite improvements have occurred in the program. In 1981 further emphasis is being placed on program priorities.

SELECTED REPORTABLE DISEASES (By Place of Residence)

STATE AND PARISH TOTALS REPORTED MORBIDITY JULY, 1981	VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES					ASEPTIC MENINGITIS	HEPATITIS A AND UNSPECIFIED	HEPATITIS B	LEGIONNAIRES DISEASE	MALARIA**	MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS	SHIGELLOSIS	TUBERCULOSIS, PULMONARY	TYPHOID FEVER	OTHER SALMONELLOSIS	UNDERNUTRITION SEVERE	GONORRHEA	SYPHILIS, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY	RABIES IN ANIMALS (PARISH TOTALS CUMULATIVE, 1981)
	MEASLES	RUBELLA*	MUMPS	PERTUSSIS	TETANUS														
TOTAL TO DATE 19 80	11	10	63	9	2	44	472	152	1	39	61	162	273	0	55	2	13565	718	7
TOTAL TO DATE 19 81	2	9	4	5	2	47	466	198	0	4	91	44	224	2	100	1	12793	984	22
TOTAL THIS MONTH	2	0	1	0	0	18	56	31	0	1	6	5	32	2	21	0	2894	162	2
ACADIA								1	2						1		14		
ALLEN							1								1		3	1	
ASCENSION													1				4	1	
ASSUMPTION																	3	2	
AVOYELLES											1						8		1
BEAUREGARD																	10		
BIENVILLE																	6		3
BOSSIER						3											43	3	1
CADDO						6		4			1	1	1		3		303	14	1
CALCASIEU							1	1				1					101	3	
CALDWELL																	1		
CAMERON																	5		
CATAHOULA																	2		
CLAIBORNE																	3		
CONCORDIA																	9		
DESOTO																	3		
EAST BATON ROUGE								1									208	13	
EAST CARROLL																	5		
EAST FELICIANA																	4		
EVANGELINE											1		1				2		1
FRANKLIN																	4		
GRANT			1														10		
IBERIA														1	1		22	4	
IBERVILLE																	3	1	
JACKSON																	4	1	
JEFFERSON	2						21	3		1	1		2		1		166	10	
JEFFERSON DAVIS																	11		
LAFAYETTE						3	1	5					1				69	4	
LAFOURCHE																	35		
LASALLE																	1		1
LINCOLN																	21	2	
LIVINGSTON							1										4		
MADISON							2										20	1	
MOREHOUSE																	23		
NATCHITOCHES							1	1							1		4		6
ORLEANS						1	8	7			2	1	4	2	1		1197	68	
OUACHITA							4						2				129	9	
PLAQUEMINES												1					6	2	
POINTE COUPEE													1				4		
RAPIDES								1					2		1		146	1	2
RED RIVER																	1		
RICHLAND								1									6	2	
SABINE						1											3	1	1
ST. BERNARD							3						1				2		
ST. CHARLES																	9		
ST. HELENA																			
ST. JAMES																	9		
ST. JOHN							1										6		
ST. LANDRY							1										19		
ST. MARTIN						1	1										11		
ST. MARY													1		1		8		
ST. TAMMANY								1				1	1		1		13	8	
TANGIPAHOA																	28	3	
TENSAS																	3		
TERREBONNE						1	5	3					3		1		59	1	
UNION																	5	2	1
VERMILION						1		1							1		9		
VERNON																	5		
WASHINGTON							4						1				3	1	
WEBSTER						1											16	4	1
WEST BATON ROUGE																	17		
WEST CARROLL																	5		
WEST FELICIANA																	4		
WINN																	8		
OUT OF STATE																	29		

* Includes Rubella, Congenital Syndrome.
** Acquired outside United States unless otherwise stated.

From January 1, 1981 through July 31, 1981 the following cases were also reported: 1-Leptospirosis; 3-Reyes Syndrome.

Department of Health and Human Resources
Office of Health Services and Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 50630, New Orleans, La. 70160

This public document was published at a cost of \$.30 per copy by the Office of Health Services and Environmental Quality to inform Physicians, Hospitals, and the Public of current Louisiana morbidity status under authority of R.S. 40:36. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.