

OFFICE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

**ANNUAL SUMMARY OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
GUAM – 2002**

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

FISH POISONING (SCOMBROID TYPE)

On January 8 two persons complaining of facial flushing, diarrhea and a peppery-tasting tingle of the mouth within 30 minutes to 1 hour after eating fried locally-caught marlin steak purchased in a local supermarket were treated at the Guam Memorial Hospital-Emergency Department (GMHA-ED) for allergic reactions. Two additional persons had similar symptoms but did not seek medical care. Testing of left-over fish samples revealed histamine levels greater than 50 parts/million. According to FDA regulation, the presence of 50 ppm histamine in fish is evidence that the sample has undergone decomposition. Although 5 reports of ciguatera-type fish poisoning were received during 2002, there were no known multi-case outbreaks of this disease.

FOOD POISONING

On July 14 7 persons from 4 different families were treated at the GMHA-ED for gastroenteritis. All patients had experienced cramps, vomiting and diarrhea soon after eating locally manufactured sushi roll with Spam® purchased at two different “Mom & Pop” stores. Although no left-over product was available for testing, the symptoms exhibited by those affected as well as an apparently short incubation period suggest that this incident was due to the ingestion of staphylococcal toxin, frequently a result of holding perishable foods for extended periods at ambient temperatures.

On December 26 five persons who had eaten at a fiesta were treated at the GMHA-ED for gastroenteritis. Symptoms exhibited by 4 persons interviewed included cramps (4), diarrhea (3), vomiting (3), nausea (2) and fever (2). *Salmonella* was isolated from the stool of one of the patients with fever.

LEPTOSPIROSIS

A 17 year-old Chamorro male developed laboratory confirmed leptospirosis upon return from a ROTC exercise held on Guam’s neighbor island of Saipan. Part of the activities included practice in fording jungle rivers. According to exercise organizers no other participants became ill.

PERTUSSIS

Three culture-confirmed *Bordetella pertussis* cases were reported in 2002. All were under 1 year of age and none had a history of off-island travel or contact with travelers. Two of the 3 had not received DTP vaccination as they were under 2 months of age; the third had received 2 vaccinations at Guam Public Health. Although delays in reporting these cases prevented the timely administration of prophylactic antibiotic therapy to contacts, there apparently was no secondary transmission of pertussis in the community.

VIBRIO INFECTIONS

In October a Chamorro businessman traveled to Taipei where he recalled eating raw oysters. He became ill there and was advised that he should have surgery for his ailment but he decided to return to Guam where he was treated for renal insufficiency and sepsis at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Guam. *Vibrio vulnificus* was isolated by blood culture.

In November 2 persons who had eaten fresh crab imported from the Philippines developed gastroenteritis. *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* was isolated from a patient stool specimen.

Non-O1 (non-agglutinating or NAG) *Vibrio cholerae* was isolated from the stool of a 3-year-old female caucasian who had recently arrived on Guam from Spain. The parents could not recall any risk factors such as consumption of seafood or contact with possibly contaminated water.

IMPORTED DISEASE

The following diseases were first diagnosed on Guam in the year 2002 but were apparently contracted off-island in the areas indicated:

Chickenpox - Korea, 1 case.

Leptospirosis - C.N.M.I., 1 case.

MRSA - Chuuk, 1 case; Palau, 1 case.

Vibrio vulnificus - Taiwan, 1 case.

RECENT DISEASE REPORTING CHANGES

In 2001 smallpox was reinstated as a reportable disease because of its possible use by bioterrorists and remains a Class I disease (those diseases suspicion of which should be reported immediately without waiting for laboratory confirmation). SARS was added to the list in 2003 which includes the other potential bioterrorism agents anthrax, botulism, viral hemorrhagic fevers, plague and tularemia. During regular working hours reports may be made by calling 735-7299 or 735-7143. After working hours and on weekends reports may be made by phoning 888-WARN (888-9276) or FAXing 734-1475.

**GUAM NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
ANNUAL NUMBER OF CASES BY MONTH OF REPORT, 2002**

DISEASE	MONTH												
	TOTAL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
AIDS	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Brucellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Campylobacteriosis	18	1	3	0	0	1	2	2	4	1	2	1	1
Chickenpox	68	9	7	5	0	12	9	6	2	6	9	2	1
Chlamydia	628	60	50	42	61	62	69	20	56	63	91	34	20
Conjunctivitis	40	2	3	1	5	3	6	3	2	0	13	0	2
Fish poisoning (Ciguatera)	5	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Fish poisoning (Scombroid)	15	10	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Poisoning	53	0	2	1	7	4	2	14	0	0	11	9	3
Giardiasis	7	2	0	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Gonorrhea	48	3	8	5	2	10	4	0	3	2	4	4	3
Guillain-Barre syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>H. influenzae</i> , invasive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hansen's disease	6	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Hepatitis A	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Hepatitis B	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Hepatitis C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Herpes simplex, Type 2	7	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
HIV	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza and Flu syndrome	43	7	7	5	2	2	2	2	1	8	4	1	2
Leptospirosis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	9	0	0	1	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningitis, Aseptic	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal disease	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MRSA	179	25	13	10	8	9	15	23	8	23	20	20	5
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pertussis	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rheumatic fever (active)	8	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	3	0	2
Rubella	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	46	4	3	4	2	6	6	4	1	7	1	2	6
Scabies	75	9	7	2	10	9	2	9	7	4	10	0	6
Scarlet Fever	9	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	1
Shigellosis	37	3	4	1	6	2	1	2	3	5	3	5	2
Streptococcal sore throat	165	9	15	5	13	13	7	5	23	13	8	33	21
Post-strep glomerulonephritis	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Syphilis, Primary	4	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syphilis, Secondary	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syphilis, Latent	12	4	0	1	2	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
Syphilis, Congenital	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Toxoplasmosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TB, Pulmonary	61	6	2	6	4	9	5	5	3	11	6	3	1
TB, Extra-pulmonary	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vancomycin resis. Enterococcus	7	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> , Non-O1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	9	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	3	0
<i>Vibrio vulnificus</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

**GUAM NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
ANNUAL NUMBER OF CASES BY ETHNICITY OF PATIENT, 2002**

DISEASE	ETHNICITY								
	TOTAL	Chamorro	Filipino	White	Micrones.	Black	Asian	Other	Unknown
AIDS	4	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Campylobacteriosis	18	9	3	0	3	0	0	0	3
Chickenpox	68	36	9	0	12	0	1	0	10
Chlamydia	628	205	74	71	87	40	14	12	125
Conjunctivitis	40	16	2	3	7	0	0	2	10
Fish poisoning (Ciguatera)	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fish poisoning (Scombroid)	15	9	1	1	0	0	0	0	4
Food poisoning	53	20	19	0	0	0	6	0	8
Giardiasis	7	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	3
Gonorrhea	48	19	6	7	4	1	5	0	6
Guillain-Barre syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hansen's disease	6	1	1	0	4	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis A	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Hepatitis B	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Herpes simplex, Type 2	7	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
HIV	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza and Flu syndrome	43	18	10	2	3	0	0	0	10
Leptospirosis	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	9	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Meningitis, Aseptic	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal disease	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
MRSA	179	97	17	2	33	2	3	1	24
Pertussis	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Rheumatic fever, active	8	2	0	0	5	0	0	1	0
Salmonellosis	46	24	4	3	5	0	0	0	10
Scabies	75	5	2	0	63	0	0	2	3
Scarlet Fever	9	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Shigellosis	37	13	5	3	14	0	1	0	1
Streptococcal sore throat	165	41	22	29	2	2	0	0	69
Post-strep glomerulonephritis	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syphilis, Primary	4	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Syphilis, Secondary	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syphilis, Latent	12	5	0	1	3	0	2	0	1
TB, Pulmonary	61	22	29	0	7	0	3	0	0
TB, Extra-pulmonary	4	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vancomycin resistant Enterococcus	7	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> , Non-O1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	9	2	4	0	1	0	1	0	1
<i>Vibrio vulnificus</i>	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**GUAM NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
ANNUAL MORBIDITY RATES, 1994 – 2002**

DISEASE	GUAM									U.S.A
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2001
AIDS	7.7	1.4	5.5	3.4	5.4	5.3	0.7	5.7	2.5	14.9
Amebiasis	0.7	2.8	2	0	2	3.4	0.7	0	0	NR
Campylobacteriosis	NR	8.3	0	5.5	10.7	9.9	8.4	6.4	11.3	NR
Chickenpox	666.3	720.1	95.1	266.5	229.3	138.2	192.1	40	42.5	19.5
Chlamydia	261.7	361.5	163	269.3	289.6	308	322.1	257.7	392.5	278.3
Cholera	0.7	0	0	0	1.3	0	2.6	0	0	0
Conjunctivitis	913.3	594.4	235.6	219.5	214.6	134.2	311.7	100.9	65.6	NR
Dengue	0	0	0	0.7	1.3	0.7	1.3	0	0	NR
Filariasis (W. bancrofti)	0	0	0	0	0	0.7	0	0	0	NR
Fish poisoning (Ciguatera)	15.4	3.5	8.3	6.2	0.7	4.6	4.5	3.2	3.1	NR
Fish poisoning (Scombroid)	16.1	3.5	1.4	3.4	1.3	0	3.9	1.9	9.4	NR
Food poisoning	39.2	84.8	91.1	49.9	23.5	49.4	32.3	15.2	33.1	NR
Giardiasis	7	6.9	4.1	0.7	6	15.1	11	5.7	4.4	NR
Gonorrhea	91.7	66.7	43.5	30.8	48.9	35.5	36.9	31.1	30	128.5
Hansen's disease	7.7	4.9	0	4.8	2	0.7	1.9	0	3.7	0.03
Hepatitis A	16.1	6.9	4.8	1.4	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.3	0.6	3.8
Hepatitis B	3.5	3.5	0.7	2.1	1.3	2.6	6.5	1.3	0.6	2.8
Hepatitis C	0	4.2	3.5	2.1	0.7	1.3	1.9	0	0	1.4
Herpes simplex, Type 2	16.8	1.4	13.1	12.3	11.4	5.9	18.1	17.1	4.4	NR
HIV	6.3	8.3	5.5	7.5	10.7	5.3	4.5	17.8	2.5	NR
Influenza and Flu syndrome	1373	852.2	171.1	64.9	21.5	90.2	18.1	19.7	26.9	NR
Legionellosis	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	1.3	0	0	0	0	0.4
Leptospirosis	0	0	1.4	1.4	0.7	0	2.6	0.6	0.6	NR
Malaria	0	1.4	0	0	1.3	0.7	1.3	0.6	0	0.6
Measles	159.6	0	0	0	0	0.7	0	0	5.6	0.04
Meningitis, Aseptic	9.1	7	2.1	0.7	1.3	0.7	1.3	0	1.3	NR
Meningitis, Other	5.6	2.1	1.4	7.5	0	1.3	0.7	0	0	NR
Meningococcal disease	1.4	1.4	3.5	2.1	1.3	0.7	1.3	0	0	0.8
MRSA	4.9	34.8	53.1	106.6	97.2	117.1	119.7	64.1	111.9	NR
Mumps	4.9	2.8	6.9	0.7	3.4	2	10.4	0	0	0.1
Pertussis	1.4	1.4	0	8.9	0.7	1.3	2.6	0	1.9	2.7
Salmonellosis	53.2	27.8	26.9	23.9	30.8	24.4	18.11	36.2	28.8	14.4
Scabies	7.7	11.8	3.5	8.2	26.8	108	99	55.2	46.8	NR
Scarlet Fever	9.1	4.9	1.4	2.7	2.7	5.9	11.6	8.3	5.6	NR
Shigellosis	23.1	13.2	29.7	50.6	26.1	12.5	29.8	33.6	23.1	7.2
Strep disease, Invasive	NR	5.6	6.9	0.7	6	2	5.2	0.6	0	1.6
Streptococcal Sore Throat	452.1	280.8	109	73.8	23.5	56.5	344.7	156.8	103.1	NR
Syphilis, Infectious	2.1	2.8	0	2.1	1.3	0.7	1.9	7	3.8	2.2
Tuberculosis	59.5	77.8	73.8	64.9	53.6	43.4	34.3	40	40.6	5.7
Typhoid Fever	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.4	0	0	0	1.9	0.2	0.1
<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	14	9	7.6	5	14.8	5.9	4.5	2.5	5.6	NR

NR = Data not available for the U.S.