

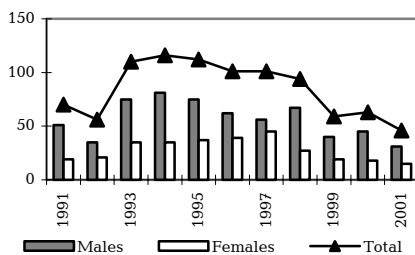


## ACUTE HEPATITIS B 2000-2001

No. 42, 2002

In 2000, the Department of Epidemiology received 63 notifications of patients with acute hepatitis B virus infection (HBV). In 2001, the number was 46. The number of notified cases of acute HBV has been falling since 1994, Fig. 1.

**Fig. 1. Patients notified with acute HBV 1991-2001, by gender**



76 (70%) of the total of 109 patients were male and 33 (30%) were female. The M:F ratio was 2.3:1. The median age for both males and females was 33 years, ranging from 0-63 years and 3-66 years, respectively. As in the previous year, most patients (58%) were in the age group 20-39 years, table 1.

**Table 1. No. of notified cases of acute HBV 2000-2001, by gender and age**

Age(yrs)	2000		2001	
	M	F	M	F
0-14	1	0	4	1
15-19	2	0	0	2
20-24	11	6	2	4
25-29	9	1	5	0
30-34	3	2	3	1
35-39	5	2	8	1
40-44	6	1	3	1
45-49	2	3	4	4
50+	6	3	2	1
Total	45	18	31	15

In 2000, the incidence was highest in the Municipality of Copenhagen, and highest in Funen County in 2001, table 2. The incidence per 10<sup>5</sup> in the whole of Denmark was 1.8 in 1998 and 1.1 in 1999. A total of 95 patients (87%) were Danish-born, and 14 (13%) were immigrants. Six of the immigrants were from Asia, four from Africa, three from Europe and one from South America. Six patients were notified with both acute HBV and chronic HCV. All were Danish-born IV drug abusers infected in Denmark.

### Transmission

Of the known source of transmission IV drug abuse, 43% (31/72), was the most common means of transmission. In three cases, heterosexual contact was also stated as a possible means of

**Table 2. No. of notified cases of acute HBV and incidence per 10<sup>5</sup> 2000-2001, by county**

County	No.		Incidence	
	2000	2001	2000	2001
Cph. Munic.	19	9	3.8	1.8
Frb. Munic.	1	1	1.1	1.1
Copenhagen	6	6	1.0	1.0
Frederiksborg	3	4	0.8	1.1
Roskilde	2	4	0.9	1.7
West Zealand	3	2	1.0	0.7
Storstrøm	1	0	0.4	0.0
Bornholm	1	0	2.3	0.0
Funen	15	13	3.2	2.8
South Jutland	2	0	0.8	0.0
Ribe	1	0	0.4	0.0
Vejle	1	2	0.3	0.6
Ringkøbing	2	2	0.7	0.7
Aarhus	4	0	0.6	0.0
Viborg	0	0	0.0	0.0
North Jutland	1	1	0.2	0.2
Unknown	1	2	-	-
Total	63	46	1.2	0.9

transmission. For 34% (37/109) of patients, the means of transmission was unknown. In Funen County, 68% (19/28) of the patients were IV drug abusers. A total of 36% (26/72) were infected through heterosexual contact, 10 of these through sex with person with known risk of HBV. Eight persons were thought to have been infected through close social contact, three men through homosexual contact, two through tattooing, one through piercing and one from mother to child. Eight (8%) Danish-born persons were infected abroad, while six (43%) immigrants were infected in Denmark. No notification was made of cases with suspected nosocomial infection. For outbreaks/clusters, see EPI-NEWS 34/02.

### Comments

The number of notified patients with acute HBV is still declining, both among persons infected through IV drug abuse and through heterosexual contact. Only few notifications were made of men having sex with men. (A. Lemcke, Dept. of Epidemiology.)

### BLOOD DONOR SCREENING 2001

In 2001, out of a total of 376,755 units of blood screened, one HIV-positive donor was found, table 3. The donor had donated blood before and was without any particular risk of HIV infection. On subsequent look-back investigation, no recipient infected with HIV was found. All 1<sup>st</sup>-time donors plus several categories of former donors rejoining the donor corps are screened for anti-HTLV. A total of

**Table 3. No. of donors pos. for HIV, HBsAg and anti-HCV and no. of donations, 2001. 1<sup>st</sup>-time donors in ( )**

No. of donors:		
pos. for HIV	1	(0)
pos. for HBsAg	17	(13)
pos. for HCV	14	(11)
No. of donations	367,755	

36,737 donations were screened for HTLV I/II. None were positive. A total of 17 persons were tested positive for HBsAg: seven females and 10 males. The median age was 31 years (range 19-57 years). Thirteen of these were 1<sup>st</sup>-time donors, while four were seroconverters. Ten 1<sup>st</sup>-time donors were born or raised in a country where HBV infection occurs endemically, seven of these related to Asia. Among multiple donors, two were probably infected through sexual contact, one during visit to high-endemic country of origin. One was possibly infected through piercing, and in one case the means of transmission was unknown. Anti-HCV was detected in a total of 14 donors: six women and eight men. The median age was 43 years (range 23-56 years). A total of 11 were 1<sup>st</sup>-time donors, one had donated blood before screening was launched, and two were seroconverters. For several donors, information was provided suggesting several possible means of transmission. Eight donors stated that they had been pierced. Of these, five had also been tattooed and three had also received acupuncture. One person, raised in an endemic area, had performed auto-tattooing with friend. A total of three persons were born or raised in an endemic area. Four persons had IV drug abuse; one of these had also received blood transfusion at a hospital in an endemic area. Needle-stick injuries were reported in two cases, one occupational. One person had sniffed amphetamine. In one case means of transmission was unknown.

### Comments

The incidence of viral serological markers among Danish donors is low and relatively stable. For a number of donors positive for hepatitis markers, several possible means of transmission were stated.

(G. H. Kock-Hansen, E. Smith, Department of Epidemiology)

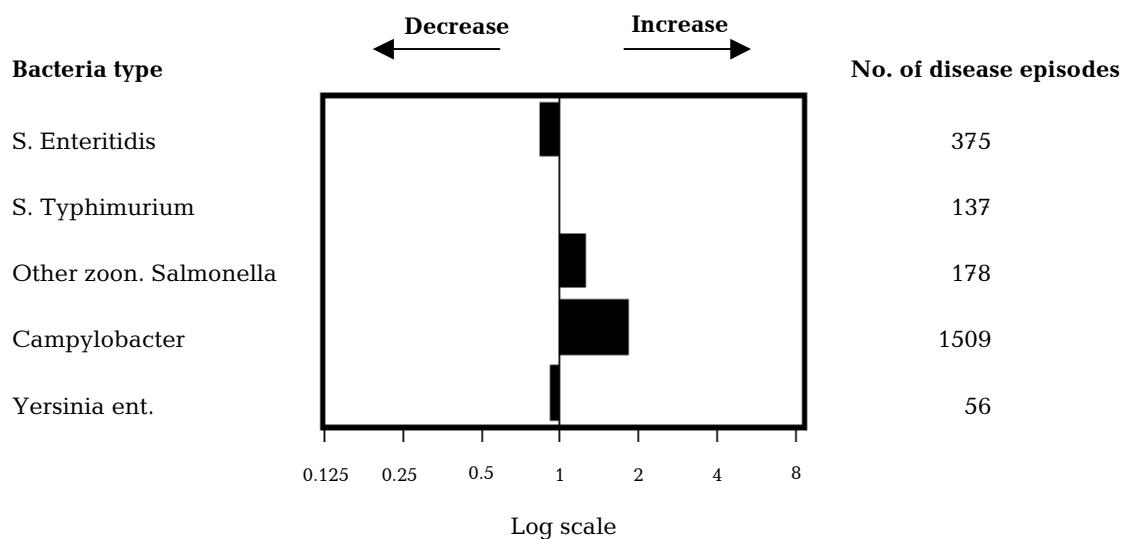
### PATHOGENIC INTESTINAL BACTERIA

Introduction of barometer overleaf. (Department of G-I Infections)

## Patients with positive culture of pathogenic intestinal bacteria, July-August 2002

County	S. Enteritidis		S. Typhimurium		Other zoon. Salmonella		Campylobacter		Yersinia ent.	
	July	August	July	August	July	August	July	August	July	August
Copenhagen Munic.	21	17	5	15	15	17	66	102	3	3
Frederiksberg Munic.	3	1	-	-	2	-	4	12	-	-
Copenhagen	18	14	2	3	4	10	77	86	3	4
Frederiksborg	12	7	2	4	9	3	53	54	2	3
Roskilde	10	17	2	2	4	5	34	38	1	2
West Zealand	9	4	-	8	15	2	16	27	-	2
Storstrøm	11	21	1	1	6	8	18	29	1	3
Bornholm	-	-	-	2	-	-	7	13	-	-
Funen	17	16	14	16	1	9	62	59	-	2
South Jutland	6	10	4	2	2	3	20	35	1	-
Ribe	10	6	2	2	5	5	46	54	1	-
Vejle	10	16	5	4	3	5	51	79	-	1
Ringkøbing	12	17	3	2	1	6	34	52	-	6
Aarhus	12	25	9	8	4	10	103	85	2	8
Viborg	10	19	3	2	4	2	36	24	1	-
North Jutland	9	14	6	8	10	8	56	72	4	3
Unknown	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
DK July/August 2002	170	205	58	79	85	93	683	826	19	37
DK July/August 2001	239	233	79	115	119	144	698	749	25	34

## Barometer for pathogenic intestinal bacteria, July-August 2002



The barometer shows number of disease episodes in the two relevant months compared with the average of 15 two-month periods in the last five years. Further surveillance data can be obtained at [www.germ.dk](http://www.germ.dk).