

TUBERCULOSIS 2002, PART I

No. 44, 2003

2002 saw a total of 419 notified cases of tuberculosis (TB). This is the lowest number in the last 10 years, representing a decrease of 18% relative to 2001, EPI-NEWS 48/02. The annual incidence was 7.8 per 10⁵, compared with 9.6 per 10⁵ in 2001, [table 1](#). The M/F ratio was 2 for Danes and 0.9 for immigrants. The median age was 48 years for Danes, range 0-88 years, and 33 years for immigrants, range 0-86 years. Distribution by gender and age was almost unchanged.

As in previous years, about two-thirds of cases occurred in immigrants or their children. There were 154 cases among Danes and 265 cases among immigrants, a decrease of 14% and 26% respectively, relative to the average number for the preceding five years, [table 1](#). The proportion of Somali cases among immigrants was still decreasing, 47% in 2000, 37% in 2001 and 31% in 2002. Among other immigrants, patients from Pakistan constituted 11%, Greenland 10%, Afghanistan 5%, and India, Turkey, Bosnia, Vietnam and the Philippines 3% each.

There were a total of 33 notified cases (8%) with recurrence: 17 Danes and 16 immigrants. The proportion of patients with recurrence was the same as in previous years.

TB localisation

TB localisation according to place of origin is shown in [table 2](#).

A total of 308 patients (74%) had pulmonary TB, and of these 34 had simultaneous extrapulmonary TB. A total of 111 (26%) patients had extrapulmonary TB alone. Relative to 2001, the proportion of patients with pulmonary TB was increasing, particularly among Danes, [table 2](#). The most frequent extrapulmonary forms of TB were glandular and pleural TB; these constituted 52% and 24% among Danes and 58% and 14% among immigrants, respectively. There were four notified cases of cerebral TB: one Dane and three immigrants. Three patients had miliary TB, all of them immigrants.

Occupational infection

In six cases, four Danes and two immigrants, information about possible occupational infection was provided in the notification. After DNA subtyping, occupational infection had to be considered improbable in four cases. However, it could not be completely excluded in two patients, a former sailor who had sailed to many

Table 1. Notified TB cases in Danes and immigrants, by county. Number and incidence per 10⁵ in 2002 and average number for 1997-2001

County	Danes		Immigrants		Total		Incidence per 10 ⁵ , 2002		
							Danes	Immigrants	Total
	2002	97-01	2002	97-01	2002	97-01			
Cph. Mcp.	44	48	68	98	112	146	10.7	75.7	22.4
Frb. Mcp.	2	3	6	9	8	12	2.5	52.9	8.8
Copenhagen	19	22	47	47	66	69	3.5	65.9	10.7
Frederiksborg	4	8	10	17	14	24	1.2	34.8	3.8
Roskilde	2	5	5	8	7	13	0.9	32.3	3.0
West Zealand	6	5	7	9	13	14	2.1	43.5	4.4
Storstrøm	5	14	13	11	18	24	2.0	107.1	6.9
Bornholm	1	1	0	1	1	2	2.3	0.0	2.3
Funen	10	11	16	32	26	44	2.3	52.8	5.5
South Jutland	4	5	7	3	11	8	1.7	41.6	4.3
Ribe	9	3	4	7	13	10	4.2	33.8	5.8
Vejle	8	5	8	16	16	21	2.4	40.0	4.6
Ringkøbing	5	9	5	10	10	19	1.9	38.7	3.6
Aarhus	15	17	35	47	50	64	2.5	75.7	7.8
Viborg	6	5	5	11	11	16	2.7	58.7	4.7
North Jutland	13	17	26	27	39	43	2.7	117.8	7.9
Other/unknown	1	1	3	3	4	4	-	-	-
Total	154	179	265	356	419	533	3.1	63.8	7.8

Table 2. Number of notified cases of TB in Danes and immigrants, by localisation, 2002 and 2001

TB localisation	Danes				Immigrants			
	2002		2001		2002		2001	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
All pulmonary TB	139	90	139	80	169	64	206	61
Only pulmonary TB	133	86	131	75	141	53	182	54
Lung- and extrapulm. TB	6	4	8	5	28	11	24	7
Only extrapulmonary TB	15	10	35	20	96	36	130	39
All extrapulmonary TB	21	14	43	25	124	47	154	46
Total	154	100	174	100	265	100	336	100

parts of the world and a foreign-born cleaner who had been employed at a clinical microbiology laboratory.

TB among children

There were 35 notified TB cases among children < 15 years, of whom 12 (34%) were children < 5 years of age. Twenty-three children were immigrants or were born in Denmark to immigrant parents, and 12 were Danish children. According to the notification, 22 (63%) children were infected in Denmark, 12 Danes and 10 children of immigrants. In the remaining 13 children, including 11 Somalis, five were infected in Somalia. In 18 (51%) cases, a known source of infection was stated on the notification. One child was infected in Jordan and one child in either India or Denmark. In six Somali children, the country of infection was unknown.

Twenty-six children, 11 Danes and

15 immigrants, had pulmonary TB, and two of these had simultaneous glandular TB. Only three cases had microscopy-positive pulmonary TB. Two children had cerebral TB, one Dane and one child of immigrants. Comments to follow in part II. (P. Andersen, G. H. Kock-Hansen, Department of Epidemiology)

THE DANISH CHILDHOOD VACCINATION PROGRAMME: REVISED PAMPHLET

The yellow pamphlet describing the childhood vaccination programme has been revised and reprinted with the most recent changes to the programme.

The pamphlet is being distributed to all general practitioners and visiting nurses. Further copies are obtainable by telephone request: +45 3268 3111 or e-mail: ordre@ssi.dk.

(Department of Epidemiology)

29 October 2003

Streptococci isolated from blood and CSF from infected patients

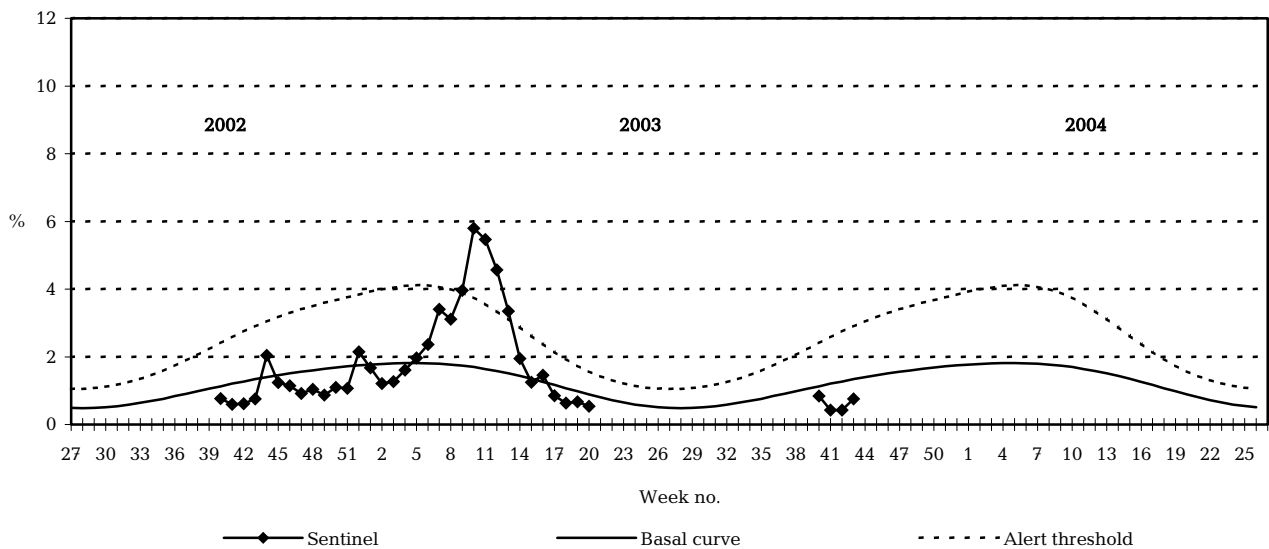
3rd quarter of 2003 compared with the corresponding period in 2002 and 2001

		3rd quarter 2003				3rd quarter	
		< 2 yrs	2-59 yrs	60+ yrs	Total	2002	2001
July	S. pneumoniae	1	6	13	20	32	43
	Gr. A strep.	0	4	2	6	12	13
	Gr. C strep.	0	1	3	4	1	3
	Gr. G strep.	0	2	6	8	9	10
August	S. pneumoniae	3	11	18	32	25	28
	Gr. A strep.	0	7	5	12	8	5
	Gr. C strep.	0	0	1	1	4	1
	Gr. G strep.	0	2	10	12	6	10
September	S. pneumoniae	10	30	37	77	48	49
	Gr. A strep.	0	2	6	8	8	2
	Gr. C strep.	0	0	3	3	1	0
	Gr. G strep.	0	2	10	12	11	15
3rd quarter	S. pneumoniae	14	47	68	129	105	120
	Gr. A strep.	0	13	13	26	28	20
	Gr. C strep.	0	1	7	8	6	4
	Gr. G strep.	0	6	26	32	26	35

(Dept. of Bacteriology, Mycology & Parasitology)

Sentinel surveillance of influenza activity

Weekly percentage of consultations, 2002/2003/2004



Sentinel: Influenza consultations as percentage of total consultations

Basal curve: Expected frequency of influenza consultations under non-epidemic conditions

Alert threshold: Possible incipient epidemic

(Dept. of Epidemiology)