



Public Health Service
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)

December 5, 2002

TO: State and Territorial Epidemiologists
State and Territorial Public Health Laboratory Directors

THROUGH: Director, Division of Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases

SUBJECT: Surveillance for Botulism
Summary of 2001 Data

Attached is the summary of laboratory-confirmed and epidemiologically-linked botulism cases from January 1 through December 31, 2001. The information provided has been compiled from reports submitted by state epidemiologists, the CDC botulism laboratory, the Infant Botulism Treatment and Prevention Program (in conjunction with the California Department of Health Services), CDC epidemiologists and the CDC botulism antitoxin release database. If the attached 2001 data from your state are incomplete or inaccurate, please contact:

Nicole A. Tucker, MPH
Botulism Surveillance
Foodborne and Diarrheal Diseases Branch
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, Mailstop A-38
Atlanta, GA 30333
Phone: 404-639-2206 / Fax: 404-639-2205

The Foodborne and Diarrheal Diseases Branch (FDDB) maintains intensive surveillance for cases of botulism in the United States. All data regarding antitoxin releases and laboratory confirmation of cases are recorded annually by CDC. Epidemiologists from FDDB are available 24 hours a day to answer calls from state and local health departments or physicians treating potential cases of botulism at (404) 639-2888.

We plan to make this report publicly available on our website:

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/botulism_a.htm under Botulism, additional information. We look forward to continuing to work together toward the control of this important public health problem.

Nicole Tucker, MPH
Surveillance Epidemiologist, Foodborne Disease Epidemiology Section, (FDES)

Jeremy Sobel, MD, MPH
Medical Epidemiologist, FDES

Susan E. Maslanka, PhD
Chief, National Botulism Surveillance and Reference Laboratory, Foodborne Disease Laboratory Section (FDLS)

Patricia M. Griffin, MD
Chief, Foodborne Diseases Epidemiology Section

Robert V. Tauxe, MD, MPH
Chief, Foodborne and Diarrheal Diseases Branch
Division of Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases
National Center for Infectious Diseases

Enclosures

cc:
Director, Epidemiology Program Office
Director, Public Health Practice Program Office
Regional Offices
Director of Regional Operations, PHPPO
Deputy/Associate Directors, NCID
Division/Program/Office directors, NCID
CDC/W
NCID

APPENDIX A

Summary of Botulism Cases Reported in 2001

A total of 169 cases of botulism intoxication were reported to CDC in 2001. Among the 33 cases of foodborne intoxication, toxin type A accounted for 20 (61%) cases and toxin type E for 10 (30%) cases. The median age of patients was 46 years. One death was reported. There were 4 multicase outbreaks. They were associated with a commercial product and Alaskan native foods.

There were 112 reported cases of infant botulism. Toxin type B accounted for 67 (60%) cases and toxin type A for 45 (40%) cases. The median age of patients was 14 weeks; one death was reported.

There were 23 reported cases of wound botulism. Toxin type A accounted for all but one case. The median age of patients was 41 years; one death was reported.

There was 1 reported case of adult colonization botulism. This case was caused by toxin type F. The 45 year old patient survived.

Table 1. Summary of Reported Botulism Cases - 2001

Foodborne

33 cases

Median age: 46 years (range: 3-78 years)
Death: 1 confirmed, 3 cases without information
Gender: 17 (51%) male, 16 (49%) female
Toxin type: 20 (61%) type A, 10 (30%) type E, 2 (6%) type B; 1 (3%) type F

4 multi-case outbreaks

Infant

112 cases

Median age: 14 weeks (range: 0 - 52 weeks)
Death: 1 confirmed, 4 without information
Gender: 62 (55%) male, 50 (45%) female
Toxin type: 45 (40%) type A, 67 (60%) type B

Wound

23 cases

Median age: 41 years (range: 23 - 58 years)
Death: 1 confirmed, 11 without information
Gender: 9 (39%) male, 14 (61%) female
Toxin type: 22 (96%) type A; 1 (4%) type B

Adult Intestinal Colonization

1 case

Age: 45 years
Death: No death reported
Gender: 1 (100%) female
Toxin type: 1 (100%) type F

**Table 2. Cases of Botulism by State and Type
January 1- December 31, 2001**

<u>State/District</u>	<u>Foodborne</u>	<u>Infant</u>	<u>Wound</u>	<u>Other*</u>	<u>Total</u>
AK	9				9
AR	1				1
AZ	1	2			3
CA	4	31	20		55
DE		6			6
GA		2			2
HI		2			2
KY		5			5
LA	1				1
MD		4		1	5
MN		2			2
MO		1			1
MT		1			1
NJ		6			6
NM			2		2
NV		1			1
NY		2			2
NYC		4			4
OH		4			4
OK		1			1
OR		2	1		3
PA		13			13
TN		4			4
TX	16	4			20
UT		4			4
VA		4			4
WA	1	6			7
WV		1			1
<u>Totals:</u>	33	112	23	1	169

* Adult intestinal colonization

**Table 3. Cases of Foodborne Botulism by Month (N=33)
January 1 - December 31, 2001**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (years)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin Type</u>	<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>Death</u>
January	AK*	52	Female	E	Beaver	No
	AK*	67	Female	E	Beaver	No
	AK*	43	Male	E	Beaver	No
	AK*	46	Female	E	Beaver	No
	CA	41	Female	F	Spaghetti sauce	No
March	WA	45	Female	A	Home canned asparagus	No
	CA	37	Male	E	Fish/Home Preserved	Unknown
April	CA	43	Female	E	Fish/Home Preserved	Unknown
June	AZ	25	Female	A	Pickled pigs feet	No
July	AK*	65	Female	E	Whitefish	No
	AK*	66	Male	E	Whitefish	No
	LA	77	Female	B	Home canned food	Yes
August	AK	47	Female	B	Unknown	No
	AK*	50	Female	E	Stink Eggs	No
	AK*	36	Female	E	Stink Eggs	No
	AR	51	Male	A	Unknown	No
	TX*	7	Male	A	Chili	No
	TX*	17	Male	A	Chili	No
	TX*	46	Male	A	Chili	No
	TX*	52	Male	A	Chili	No
	TX*	3	Female	A	Chili	No
	TX*	42	Male	A	Chili	No
	TX*	49	Male	A	Chili	No
	TX*	29	Male	A	Chili	No
	TX*	72	Male	A	Chili	No
	TX*	53	Female	A†	Chili	No
	TX*	50	Male	A†	Chili	No
	TX*	62	Female	A†	Chili	No
	TX*	45	Male	A†	Chili	No
	TX*	78	Male	A†	Chili	No
	TX*	17	Male	A†	Chili	No
	TX*	25	Female	A†	Chili	No
	November	CA	50	Male	A	Unknown

* Cases involved in a multicas e outbreak. AK (3 outbreaks), TX (1 outbreak)

†Toxin type in epidemiologically-linked case.

Table 4. Cases of Infant Botulism by Month (N=112)
January 1 - December 31, 2001

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (weeks)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin type</u>	<u>Death</u>
January	OH	11	Male	B	No
January	MN	5	Male	A	No
January	CA	6	Female	A	No
January	CA	14	Male	A	No
January	VA	10	Male	B	No
January	NV	15	Male	A	No
January	MD	16	Male	B	No
January	UT	6	Female	A	No
January	NJ	3	Female	B	No
February	DE	21	Female	B	No
February	VA	9	Female	B	No
February	CA	16	Female	B	No
February	KY	8	Male	B	No
February	NJ	23	Male	B	No
March	CA	21	Male	A	No
March	CA	24	Male	A	No
March	CA	25	Male	A	No
March	CA	27	Female	A	No
March	NY	8	Male	A	No
March	CA	4	Male	A	No
March	DE	14	Male	B	No
March	TN	4	Female	A	No
March	PA	18	Female	B	No
March	AZ	6	Male	A	No
March	HI	20	Female	B	No
March	WA	26	Male	A	Unknown
April	DE	6	Female	B	No
April	CA	12	Female	A	No
April	OK	44	Male	B	No
April	PA	21	Female	B	No
April	OH	8	Male	B	No
March	TN	12	Male	B	No
April	OR	20	Female	A	Unknown
April	PA	6	Female	B	No
April	CA	50	Male	A	No
April	MD	9	Male	B	No
April	OR	21	Female	A	No
April	NY	2	Male	B	No
April	TX	10	Female	A	No
April	CA	24	Female	A	No
May	DE	5	Female	B	No
May	NJ	19	Male	B	No
May	NJ	5	Male	B	No

**Table 4. Cases of Infant Botulism by Month (N=112)
January 1 - December 31, 2001**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (weeks)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin type</u>	<u>Death</u>
May	PA	40	Female	B	No
May	UT	4	Male	B	Yes
May	WA	7	Male	A	No
May	WV	8	Female	B	Unknown
May	TX	0	Female	A	No
May	KY	27	Female	B	No
May	CA	13	Female	B	No
May	NYC	19	Female	B	No
June	DE	32	Male	B	No
June	NYC	34	Male	B	No
June	NYC	16	Male	B	No
June	PA	10	Male	B	No
June	UT	4	Male	A	No
July	MT	19	Male	A	No
July	CA	9	Male	B	No
July	CA	15	Male	A	No
July	UT	10	Male	A	No
July	WA	7	Female	A	No
July	WA	52	Male	A	No
July	TN	8	Female	B	No
July	GA	2	Female	B	No
July	WA	11	Female	B	No
July	KY	16	Male	B	No
August	MD	11	Male	B	No
August	PA	18	Male	B	No
August	MD	19	Male	A	No
August	TX	2	Male	B	No
August	CA	9	Female	A	No
August	CA	27	Male	B	No
August	HI	6	Female	B	No
August	KY	18	Female	B	No
August	MO	17	Female	B	No
August	CA	21	Male	B	No
September	DE	10	Female	B	No
September	CA	20	Female	A	No
September	CA	13	Female	A	No
September	CA	13	Male	A	No
September	PA	43	Female	B	No
September	AZ	13	Female	A	No
September	PA	15	Male	B	No
September	CA	17	Female	B	No
September	NJ	23	Male	B	No
September	CA	24	Male	A	No

**Table 4. Cases of Infant Botulism by Month (N=112)
January 1 - December 31, 2001**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (weeks)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin type</u>	<u>Death</u>
September	CA	14	Female	A	No
October	CA	21	Female	A	No
October	MN	21	Male	A	No
October	CA	25	Female	B	No
October	GA	6	Female	A	No
October	CA	21	Male	A	No
October	PA	28	Male	B	No
October	CA	3	Female	B	No
October	TX	5	Male	A	No
November	TN	14	Female	B	Unknown
November	CA	12	Male	A	No
November	CA	7	Male	B	No
November	NJ	18	Female	B	No
November	PA	11	Male	B	No
November	CA	18	Male	A	No
November	VA	9	Male	B	No
November	CA	8	Male	B	No
November	WA	22	Male	A	No
November	KY	3	Male	A	No
November	OH	9	Female	B	No
December	PA	18	Female	B	No
December	NYC	10	Female	B	No
December	PA	15	Female	B	No
December	VA	4	Male	B	No
December	OH	24	Male	B	No
December	PA	11	Male	B	No

**Table 5. Cases of Wound Botulism by Month (N=23)
January 1 - December 31, 2001**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (years)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin Type</u>	<u>Exposures*</u>	<u>Death</u>
January	CA	38	Male	A	IDU	No
	CA	43	Male	A	IDU	No
March	OR	41	Male	A	IDU	Unknown
April	CA	50	Male	A	IDU	Unknown
May	NM	39	Male	A	Contaminated wound following MVA [†]	Yes
	CA	52	Male	A	IDU	No
	CA	41	Male	A	IDU	Unknown
June	CA	56	Male	A	IDU	No
July	CA	58	Female	A	IDU	Unknown
	CA	37	Male	A	IDU	No
	CA	30	Female	A	IDU	No
	CA	33	Female	A	IDU	Unknown
	CA	29	Female	A	IDU	Unknown
August	CA	42	Male	A	IDU	No
September	CA	23	Male	A	IDU	No
October	CA	41	Female	A	IDU	Unknown
	CA	46	Female	A	IDU	No
November	CA	43	Female	A	IDU	Unknown
	CA	40	Female	B	IDU	Unknown
	NM	47	Male	A	IDU	No
December	CA	46	Male	A	IDU	No
	CA	48	Male	A	IDU	Unknown
	CA	35	Female	A	IDU	Unknown

* IDU= Injection drug use

[†] MVA=Motor vehicle accident

**Table 6. Case of Adult Intestinal Colonization Botulism (N=1)
January 1 - December 31, 2001**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (years)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin Type</u>	<u>Death</u>
October	MD	45	Female	F	No