

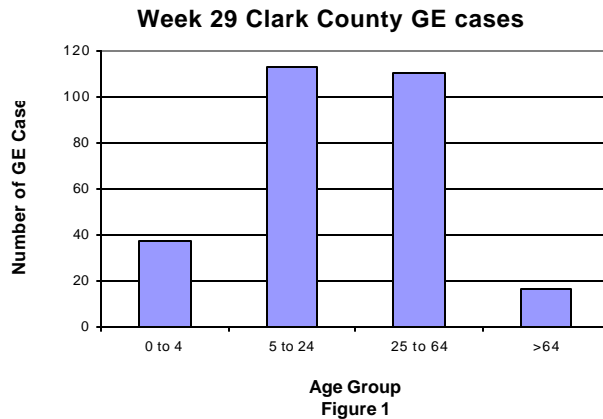


**Office of Epidemiology  
Gastroenteritis Surveillance Program**

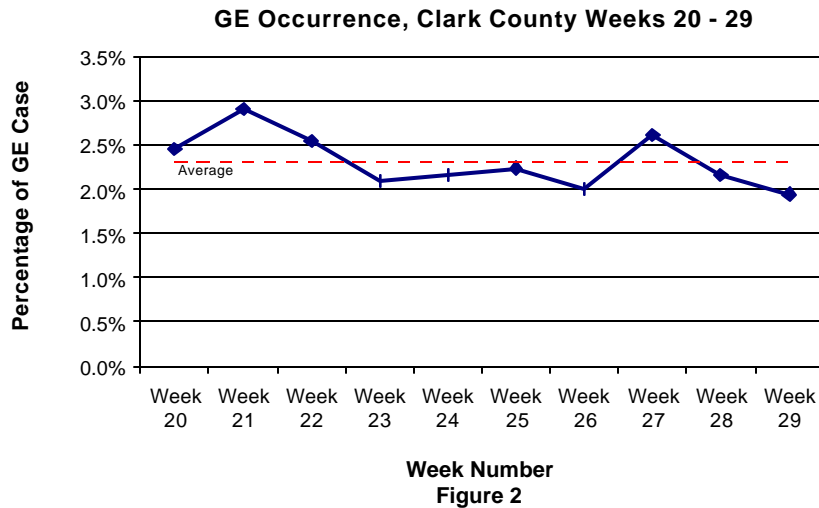
Date: August 4, 2000.  
 To: Health Care Providers  
 From: Patricia Rowley, BS, Surveillance Coordinator  
 Subject: Report for week ending July 21, 2000 (Week 29).

The Clark County Health District Gastroenteritis Surveillance Program began data collection on May 15, 2000 (week 20). This is an ongoing program and is open to new participants. Health care providers wishing to participate as sentinel sites for the surveillance program should contact Patricia Rowley, Surveillance Coordinator, at (702) 383-1378.

Thirty-four sentinel sites reported during week 29, (July 15-21). A total of 277 cases of gastroenteritis (GE) were reported, which is 1.9% of the 14,250 patients seen that week. Persons experiencing diarrhea or vomiting not explained by a chronic condition were counted as cases. Figure 1 shows the distribution of cases by age.



The average rate of occurrence of GE in the first ten weeks of surveillance has been 2.3%, ranging between 1.9% and 2.9% (Figure 2). This may represent the endemic level of GE in Clark County.



Antibiotic resistance of enteric pathogens is a national concern. The National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS), Enteric Bacteria 1998 Report covers antibiotic resistance in many enteric pathogens. Table 1 is an example of the information available in the report. Table 1 is a synopsis of antimicrobial resistance in *Salmonella* strains submitted for analysis to the NARMS in 1998. A large number of the samples submitted had resistance to multiple antibiotics. This report can be viewed in full on the Internet at: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/narms/98toc.htm>.

**Table 1: Antimicrobial Resistance in *Salmonella* spp. (1998) <sup>(1)</sup>**

<b>Antibiotic</b>	<b>Number resistant</b>	<b>% resistant</b>
Amikacin	0	0
Amox/Clavacid	24	1.6
Ampicillin	241	16.4
Apramycin	1	0.07
Ceftiofur	14	1
Ceftriaxone	10	0.7
Cephalothin	33	2.3
Chloramphenicol	145	9.9
Ciprofloxacin1	1	0.07
Gentamicin	42	2.9
Kanamycin84	84	5.7
Nalidixic acid	20	1.4
Streptomycin	273	18.6
Sulfamethoxazole	283	19.3
Tetracycline	295	20.1
Trimeth/Sulfa	34	2.3

If you have questions regarding the gastroenteritis surveillance program, please call Patricia Rowley at (702) 383-1378. The weekly GE reports are now posted on the Web at <http://www.cchd.org/gastro.html>

Please refer patients with a suspected foodborne illness to the Clark County Health District, Office of Epidemiology, to report their illness. The Office of Epidemiology may be reached Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm at (702) 383-1378. After hours and weekends, call (702) 385-1291.

References:

1. National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System, 1998 Report.