

Epidemiology Update: Fungal Meningitis Associated With Contaminated Product

October 25, 2012

The information and analyses in this update report are preliminary and subject to change.

43 cases (including 2 fatal cases) meet meningitis (n=42) or osteomyelitis/epidural abscess (n=1) case definitions. Forty (93%) are Virginia residents; 3 (7%) are West Virginia residents.

- 11 (23%) are laboratory-confirmed cases: *Exserohilum rostratum* (n=10); *Cladosporium* (n=1)

Description of exposed persons and attack rates:

- 685 persons are believed to have been exposed in Virginia to 1 of 3 recalled methylprednisolone acetate lots (lots 05212012, 06292012 and 08102012) produced by the New England Compounding Center.
- All case-patients to date received injections from Insight Imaging in Roanoke, VA.

Persons Exposed to One of Three Recalled MPA Lots and Attack Rates by Procedure Type and Lot*

Lot	Total	# Cases	Attack Rate Overall	Attack Rate Epidural Only
06292012 only	270	31	11.5%	12.6%
06292012 with other lot	94	10	10.6%	11.5%
05212012 only	278	1	0.4%	0.4%
08102012 only	36	0	0.0%	0.0%
05212012 and 08102012	6	1	16.7%	16.7%
Total	684*	43	6.3%	7.0%

*1 person who received only lot 06292012 is missing procedure type.

Description of 43 cases:

- 21 (49%) are male. The median age is 65 years (32 – 92years)
- All 43 case-patients are currently or have been hospitalized. Five (12%) are known to have been admitted to an ICU; three (5%) had a stroke reported and two (5%) died.
- The range of symptom onset dates is July 30, 2012 – October 14, 2012 (see chart).
- The incubation period (defined as date of last injection to symptom onset date) is a median of 19 days (range 1-41).
- Symptoms among the 43 case-patients include headache (88%), neck stiffness (58%), fever (47%), nausea (32%), chills (26%), back pain (23%), photophobia (16%), weakness or numbness (12%) and vomiting (12%).
- Among 43 patients with meningitis or epidural abscess, initial LP results reveal a median (adjusted*) of 830 leukocytes per mm³ (range 0**-9,080), glucose 43 mg/dL (range 15-120), and protein 102mg/dL (range 30-469).

* WBC counts were adjusted for presence of red blood cells by subtracting 1 WBC for every 500 red blood cells present.

** For two case-patients with meningitis, initial CSF WBC was < 5, but repeat LPs showed elevated WBC.

