

## Toxic Shock Syndrome

Agent: *Staphylococcus aureus* or beta-hemolytic streptococci (bacteria)

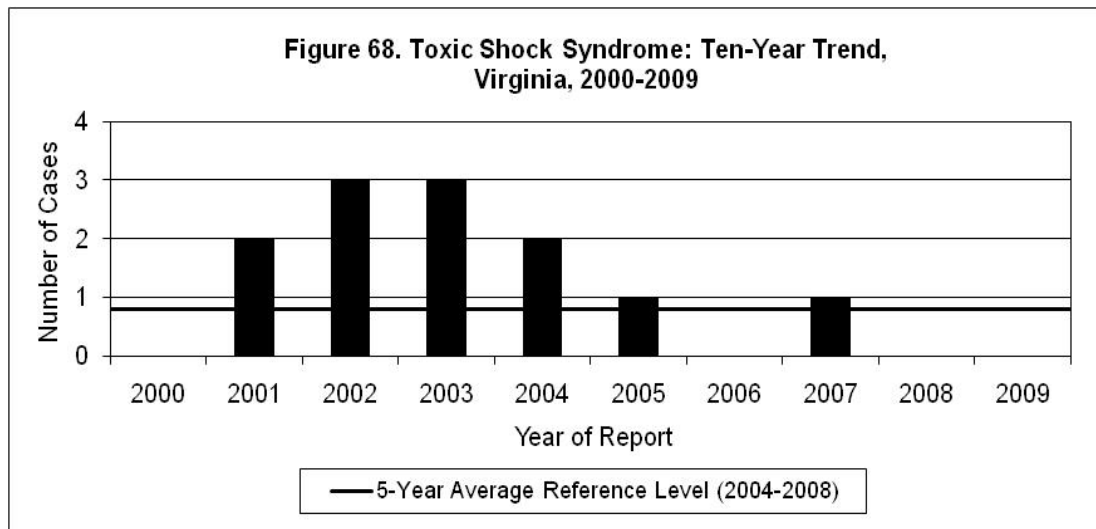
Mode of Transmission: Person-to-person transmission through direct contact or through contact with contaminated materials or surfaces.

Signs/Symptoms: Sudden onset of high fever, rash, vomiting, watery diarrhea, and muscle pain, followed by a drop in blood pressure, and shock in severe cases.

Prevention: Hands should be washed carefully and all skin abrasions should be cleaned thoroughly. Preventive measures include the eradication of *S. aureus* and *Streptococcus pyogenes* from draining wounds.

Other Important Information: The majority of early cases were reported in women during menses; however, in recent years, only 55% of cases have been reported among women of child-bearing age.

No cases of toxic shock syndrome due to *S. aureus* were reported in Virginia during 2009. The last reported case occurred in 2007 in a white female adolescent from the northwest region. For the past five years, the average occurrence of this condition was 0.8 cases per year (Figure 68).



For information on toxic shock syndrome cases caused by infection with group A *Streptococcus*, see the “Streptococcal Disease, Group A, Invasive” section in this report.