**Enter-net Quarterly VTEC Report 2005/4**

Confidential

**Summary.**

This report gives details of the number of isolates identified by the national reference laboratories in the 4th quarter of 2005 and incorporated in the Enter-net VTEC database. Seventeen countries have supplied the relevant data electronically (or reported a nil return). Four hundred and thirteen cases have been reported. The most common serogroups identified were O157 (199 cases, 48.2%), O26 (23, 5.6%), O91 (20, 4.8%), O103 (15, 3.6%), O145 (10, 2.4%), O146 (9, 2.2%), O111 (8, 1.9%), O76 (6, 1.5%), and O128 (6, 1.5%), these were the only serogroups with five-or-more cases. Seventy-three cases (17.7%) were untyped or untypable; the remaining 44 cases (10.6%) consisted of 31 other serogroups.

**Quarterly data – major trends.**

Details in the tables to the left refer to the ten countries that have supplied data electronically for 2005 and 2004. The total number of reports in the database shows an increase of 13.2% over the same period in 2004 from 281 to 318 cases.

*E. coli* O157 was the most commonly identified serogroup (table 1). Where phage typing is performed phage type 32 was the predominant strain unlike in 2004 when it was phage type 21/28 (table 2).

The breakdown of serogroups by country is given in table 7.

The phrase ‘NT’ is used throughout this report and stands for untyped or untypable for whatever reason.

All data are provisional; the month of report is based on the date of receipt in the reference laboratory.

Antimicrobial susceptibility testing results.

Antimicrobial susceptibility test results were available for 149 records. The majority of these are tested against the panel of 11 antimicrobials recommended by Enter-net, although not all strains are necessarily tested against each one. The frequency and percent in the categories resistant, intermediate and sensitive (as defined by each reference laboratory) are given in table 3.

Multi-drug resistance.

Table 4 shows the total number of strains with multi-resistance (to four or more antimicrobials) and the percent of the total for that serogroup with an associated antibiogram.

* Eight different serogroups plus one not-typed.

Age and gender.

The age and gender breakdown is detailed in table 5.

Clinical manifestation.

The clinical manifestation is detailed for 192 of the cases in the database. Bloody diarrhoea is more common in cases with O157 infections compared to non-O157 infections, HUS is split evenly between the two (table 6).