

Report on Invasive Group B Streptococcal Infections in Ireland, Quarters 1-4 2014

May 2015

Data extracted from CIDR on 12th May 2015

BACKGROUND

Invasive Group B Streptococci (iGBS; *Streptococcus agalactiae*) infections in infants <90 days old or stillborn infants have been notifiable in Ireland via the Computerised Infectious Diseases Reporting (CIDR) system since January 2012.

In neonates two syndromes exist:

- Early-onset disease (EOD; age at onset/diagnosis <7 days old)
- Late-onset disease (LOD; age at onset/diagnosis 7-89 days old)

Both include sepsis, pneumonia and meningitis. Stillbirth associated with isolation/detection of *Streptococcus agalactiae* from the placenta or amniotic fluid is also notifiable.

NOTIFICATION DATA

Between 1st January and 31st December 2014 (Quarters 1-4), there were 67 cases of iGBS notified nationally, of which 45 and 22 cases represented EOD and LOD, respectively (Tables 1 and 2 and Figure 1). The provisional EOD and LOD rates (calculated using the number of live births for 2013 as the 2014 were not available as of 22nd May 2014) were 0.64 and 0.33 per 1,000 live births, respectively.

Table 1. Biannual breakdown of iGBS cases by disease syndrome

Disease syndrome	Time period					
	Q1-2 2012 n (%)	Q3-4 2012 n (%)	Q1-2 2013 n (%)	Q3-4 2013 n (%)	Q1-2 2014 n (%)	Q3-4 2014 n (%)
EOD	24 (69%)	33 (80%)	22 (71%)	20 (57%)	23 (64%)	22 (71%)
LOD	11 (31%)	8 (20%)	9 (29%)	15 (43%)	13 (36%)	9 (29%)
Total	35	41	31	35	36	31

Table 2. Annual breakdown, including rates, of iGBS cases by disease syndrome

Disease syndrome	Year					
	2012		2013		2014	
	n (%)	Rate*	n (%)	Rate*	n (%)	Rate*
EOD	57 (75%)	0.79	41 (62%)	0.59	45 (67%)	0.64
LOD	19 (25%)	0.26	25 (38%)	0.36	22 (33%)	0.33
Total	76	1.05	66	0.96	67	0.97

* Incidence rate per 1,000 live births; NA, Not available

Live births in the Republic of Ireland (source: www.cso.ie): 2012, 72,225; 2013, 68,930; 2014, data not available. Provisional rates for 2014 (highlighted in red) are calculated using the live births for 2013

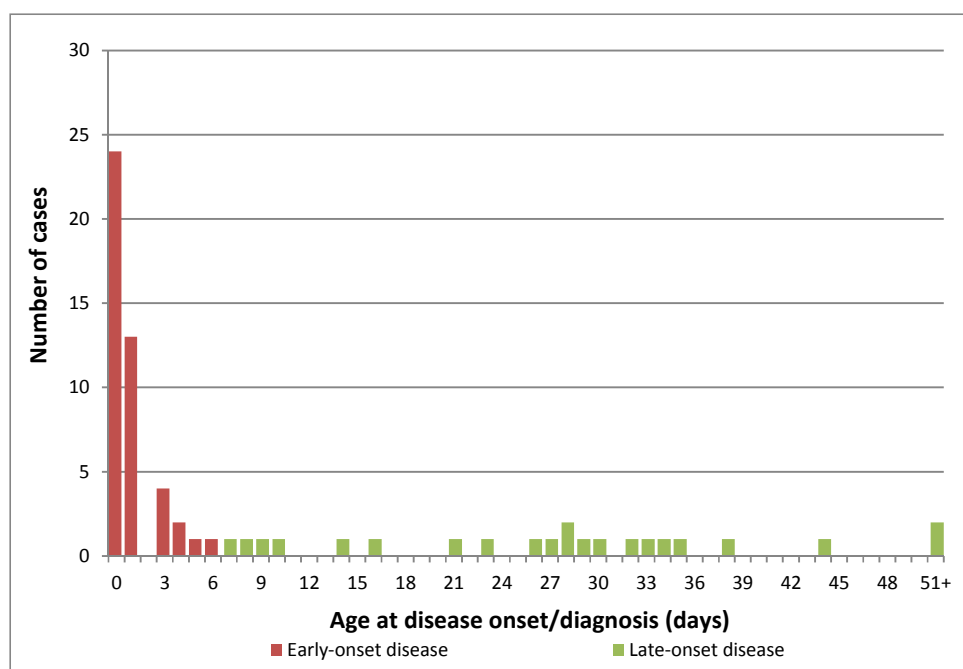


Figure 1. Distribution of iGBS cases by age (in days) at time of disease onset/diagnosis for Jan-Dec 2014

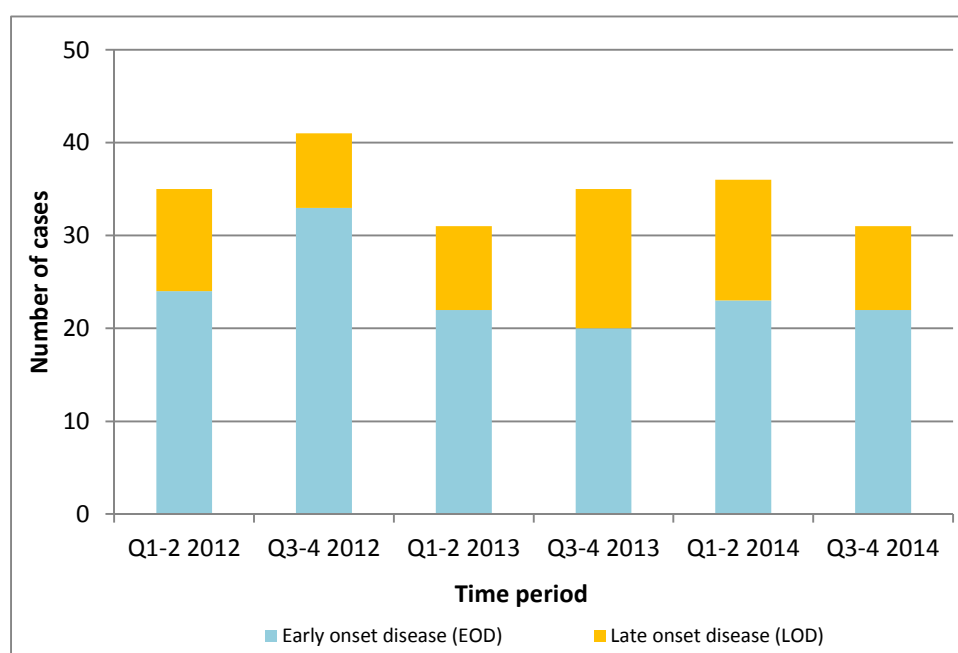


Figure 2. Distribution of iGBS cases by disease syndrome (EOD/LOD) over time

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sincere thanks to all for providing data for this report and for contributing to the surveillance of iGBS infections in Ireland

Notes regarding the surveillance of invasive group B streptococcal infection Laboratories

1. All cases of iGBS diagnosed in children aged <90 days (as per case definition) are notified in a timely manner to the relevant Department of Public Health
2. iGBS isolates, if available, can be submitted to EMBU at the Children's University Hospital, Temple Street for typing

Departments of Public Health

1. All iGBS cases notified are inputted to CIDR