

2.4 Invasive Group B Streptococcal Infections

Summary

Number of cases, 2012: 77

- 58 cases of early-onset disease (EOD)
- 19 cases of late-onset disease (LOD)

EOD rate per 1,000 live births, 2012: 0.80

LOD rate per 1,000 live births, 2012: 0.26

Background

Invasive Group B streptococcal (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.

Notifications

In 2012, there were 77 iGBS cases, of which 58 and 19 cases represented EOD and LOD, respectively (Figure 1). The EOD and LOD rates were 0.80 and 0.26 per 1,000 live births, respectively (72,225 live births, CSO 2012 data obtained from <http://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/birthsdeathsandmarriages/numberofbirthsdeathsandmarriages/>)

Nineteen cases presented with meningitis (meningitis was specifically mentioned as a case presentation for 11 cases and inferred from eight cases where the specimen type tested included CSF).

The figures presented in this summary are based on data extracted from the Computerised Infectious Diseases Reporting (CIDR) System on 23rd August 2013.

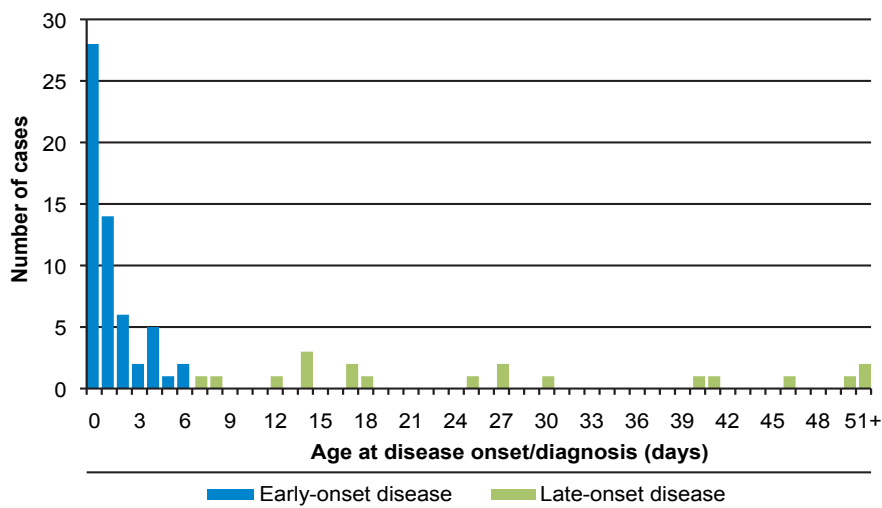


Figure 1. Number of cases of invasive Group B streptococcal infection by age at onset/diagnosis: early-onset disease (<7 days) and late-onset disease (7-89 days)