

2.4 Invasive Group B Streptococcal Infections

Summary

Number of cases, 2014: 68

- 46 cases of early-onset disease (EOD)
- 22 cases of late-onset disease (LOD)

EOD rate per 1,000 live births, 2014: 0.68

LOD rate per 1,000 live births, 2014: 0.33

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 2014, there were 68 iGBS cases, of which 46 and 22 cases represented EOD and LOD, respectively (Figure 1 and Table 1). The EOD and LOD rates were 0.68 and 0.33 per 1,000 live births, respectively (67,462 live births, CSO 2014 data obtained from <http://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vs/vitalstatisticsyearlysummary2014/>)

Five cases presented with meningitis and five cases were associated with stillbirth.

The figures presented in this summary are based on data extracted from CIDR on **19th October 2014**.

Table 1. Annual breakdown, including rates, of iGBS cases by disease syndrome, 2012-2014

Disease syndrome	Year					
	2012		2013		2014	
	n (%)	Rate*	n (%)	Rate*	n (%)	Rate*
EOD	57 (75%)	0.79	41 (62%)	0.59	46 (68%)	0.68
LOD	19 (25%)	0.26	25 (38%)	0.36	22 (32%)	0.33
Total	76	1.05	66	0.96	68	1.01

* Incidence rate per 1,000 live births

Live births in the Republic of Ireland (source: www.cso.ie): 2012, 72,225; 2013, 68,930; 2014, 67,462

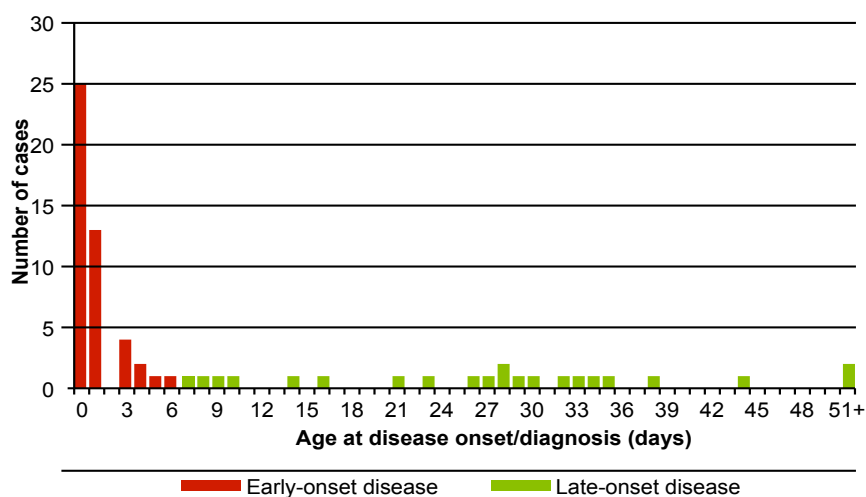


Figure 1. Distribution of cases of invasive Group B streptococcal infection by age (in days) at time of onset/diagnosis in 2014: early-onset disease (<7 days) and late-onset disease (7-89 days)