

2.2 Legionellosis

Summary

Number of cases in 2012: 15
Crude incidence rate: 3.3 per million

Eight cases were travel-associated. Countries of travel included France (2), Ireland (1), Italy (1), Spain (2) and the USA (2). Three of these cases were linked to travel related clusters. Of the seven remaining cases, two were healthcare-associated and the remaining five were assumed to be community acquired.

The peak month for notifications was October when three cases were notified.

In 2012, there were 15 cases of Legionnaires' disease notified in Ireland, a rate of 3.3 per million population, an increase from the rate of 1.5 per million seen in 2011. Three deaths were reported, of which one was reported as due to Legionnaires' disease.

Seven cases were reported from HSE East, four from HSE West, three from HSE Mid-West and one from HSE North East.

Just over half of the cases were male (53.3%). The median age was 68 years with a range from 38 to 87 years.

All fifteen cases were classified as confirmed. Thirteen of the 15 cases were diagnosed by urinary antigen test (UAT) and three had the organism cultured. The organism involved in the 13 cases confirmed by UAT and cultured in one of those cases was *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1. *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 3 was cultured in the remaining two cases. Monoclonal subtyping information was not available.

Table 1. Number of Legionnaires' disease cases per million population in Ireland, 2005-2012

Age group (years)	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<30	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
30-39	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	1
40-49	3	7	4	2	0	2	0	1
50-59	1	2	2	3	2	1	1	1
60-69	1	1	3	4	3	3	4	6
70+	1	2	2	2	2	4	2	6
Total	8	12	15	11	7	11	7	15
CIR	1.9	2.8	3.5	2.6	1.5	2.4	1.5	3.3

For details of denominator data used, please see Explanatory Notes section at the end of this document