

4.3 Other Notifiable Non-IID Zoonotic Diseases

Toxoplasmosis

During 2013, 32 cases of toxoplasmosis were notified compared to 36 in 2012 and 32 cases in 2011. 15% of cases with known patient status were hospitalized (3/20)

One congenital case was reported, the same as in each of the last three years.

The remaining 31 cases ranged in age from 10 to 87 years (median, 33 years). As in previous years, female cases were more common (53%). The high number of cases reported among women of child-bearing age is probably a reflection of enhanced testing during pregnancy (Table 1).

Brucellosis

During 2013, there was one case of brucellosis notified, an adult female. This compares with between one and four cases per annum over the previous five years. The case was reported as *Brucella species*; the country of infection was not specified.

Despite the reporting of this female case this year, the age and sex distribution for brucellosis in recent years in Ireland has tended towards adult males, suggesting that occupational exposure is likely to be a major transmission route for this disease.

Echinococcosis

In 2013, there was one notification of echinococcosis; an adult female who acquired her illness in Poland. Prior to this there have only been four cases of echinococcosis notified in Ireland since the disease became notifiable in 2004; in 2008, two adult cases were notified, and one adult case was notified each in 2009 and 2010.

Because of the long incubation period for this disease, it is possible that these infections occurred many years ago.

Trichinosis and Q Fever

No cases of either of these zoonotic diseases were notified in Ireland in 2013.

Since the disease became notifiable in 2004, there have only been two cases of trichinosis; both were associated with exposure in Poland, and were linked to the same outbreak. For Q fever between 2004 and 2012, annual totals of 5 to 17 cases were notified.

Table 1: Toxoplasmosis notifications by age and sex, Ireland 2013

Age group	Male	Female	Total
<1 yr	1	0	1
1-4 yrs	0	0	0
5-14 yrs	1	2	3
15-24 yrs	2	1	3
25-44 yrs	5	14	19
45-64 yrs	4	0	4
65+ yrs	2	0	2
Total	15	17	32