

Disease Surveillance

Disease surveillance enables the health authority to identify prevailing incidence and trends of diseases, to conduct timely investigation, and to formulate and implement intervention strategies. In Hong Kong, systematic disease surveillance for infectious diseases, occupational diseases and cancers are in place.

Infectious Diseases

Notifiable Infectious Diseases

In accordance with the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance (Cap.141), there are 27 notifiable infectious diseases (Table C). Of these, cholera, plague and yellow fever are quarantinable diseases. All medical practitioners are required to notify the Department of Health all suspected notifiable infectious diseases. The Department of Health will conduct surveillance and control of the infectious diseases.

In 2000, a total of 20 573 cases of infectious diseases were notified and the figure was comparable to that of 1999 (20 342 cases). The top five diseases in terms of number of notifications were chickenpox (8 556 cases), tuberculosis (7 578 cases), rubella (2 338 cases), viral hepatitis (683 cases) and food poisoning (618 outbreaks with 2 452 persons affected). Of which, chickenpox and tuberculosis accounted for 41.6% and 36.8% of all notifications respectively.

疾病監察

疾病監察有助醫護機構掌握疾病發病率及其趨勢的資料，從而作出合時的調查及制定應對策略。香港已對傳染病、職業病及癌病作出了有系統的監察。

傳染病

須呈報的傳染病

根據《檢疫及防疫條例》(第141章)，本港共有27種法定須呈報的傳染病(表C)。當中，霍亂、瘟疫及黃熱病是屬於須檢疫的疾病。而所有醫生須向衛生署呈報懷疑屬須呈報的傳染病，以便衛生署作出傳染病監察及控制。

在二零零零年，共有20573宗須呈報傳染病的個案，這數字跟一九九九年相若(20342宗)。首五類呈報個案最多的傳染病為水痘(8556宗)，結核病(7578宗)，德國麻疹(2338宗)，病毒性肝炎(683宗)及食物中毒(618宗，2452人受影響)，其中水痘和結核病分別佔所有個案的41.6%及36.8%。

Table C List of Notifiable Infectious Diseases, 2000

表 C 二零零零年須呈報的傳染病

Cholera 霍亂	Food Poisoning 食物中毒	Relapsing Fever 回歸熱
Plague 瘟疫	Legionnaires' Disease 退伍軍人病	Rubella 風疹（德國麻疹）
Yellow Fever 黃熱病	Leprosy 麻風	Scarlet Fever 猩紅熱
Acute Poliomyelitis 急性脊髓灰質炎（小兒麻痺）	Malaria 瘧疾	Tetanus 破傷風
Amoebic Dysentery 阿米巴痢疾	Measles 麻疹	Tuberculosis 結核病
Bacillary Dysentery 桿菌痢疾	Meningococcal Infections 腦膜炎雙球菌感染	Typhoid Fever 傷寒
Chickenpox 水痘	Mumps 流行性腮腺炎	Typhus Fever 斑疹傷寒
Dengue Fever 登革熱	Paratyphoid Fever 副傷寒	Viral Hepatitis 病毒性肝炎
Diphtheria 白喉	Rabies 狂犬病	Whooping Cough 百日咳

Cholera

There were 12 cholera cases reported in 2000, representing a decrease of 33.3% when compared with 18 cases in 1999. Of these, seven were local cases and four were imported. The source of infection for the remaining case could not be ascertained. The causative organisms included *Vibrio cholerae* O1 El Tor Ogawa (4 cases), *Vibrio cholerae* O1 El Tor Inaba (4 cases) and *Vibrio cholerae* O139 (4 cases).

Chickenpox

There were 8 556 notifications on chickenpox in 2000. Following the pattern of 1999, the majority (87.2%) were children aged ten years or below. Complications were uncommon (<1%).

霍亂

二零零零年共有12宗霍亂個案，較一九九九年的18宗少33.3%。其中，七宗為本地感染個案，四宗為外地感染個案，其餘一宗個案的感染源頭不明。致病細菌包括O1 埃爾托小川型霍亂弧菌（4宗），O1 埃爾托稻葉型霍亂弧菌（4宗）及O139型霍亂弧菌（4宗）。

水痘

二零零零年呈報的水痘個案有8 556宗。跟一九九九年的情況一樣，大部分個案（87.2%）為十歲或以下的小童。併發症並不常見（<1%）。

Tuberculosis

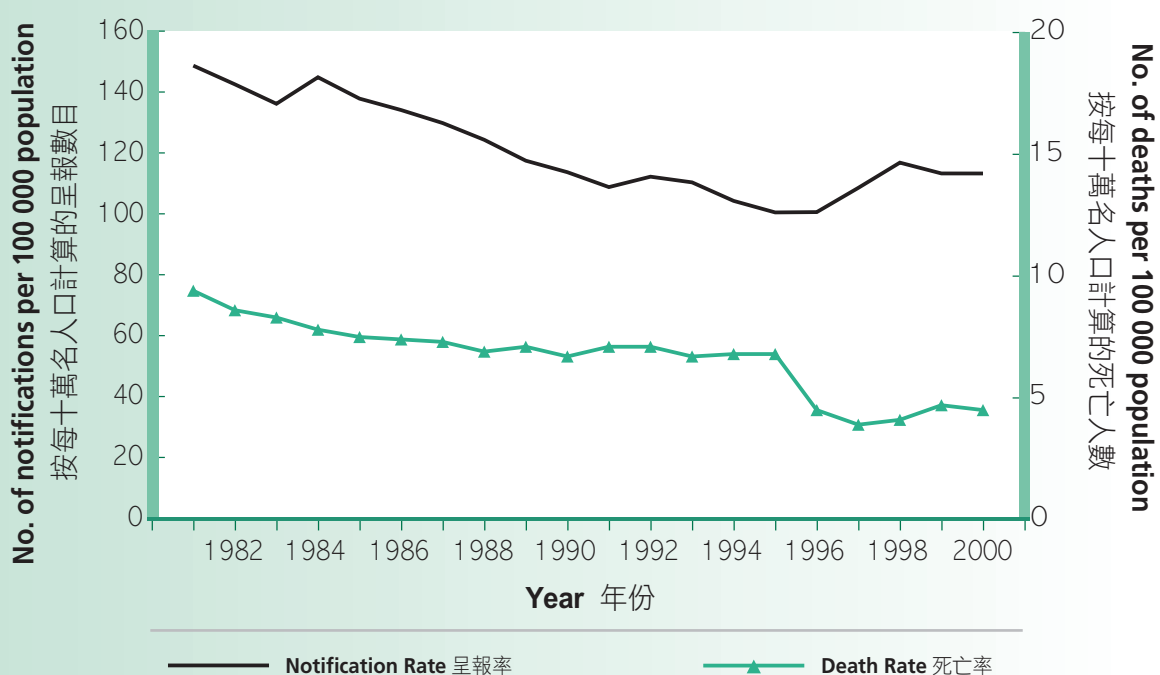
Although the notification rate of tuberculosis in Hong Kong showed an overall downward trend in the past 20 years (Figure 12), the rate of decline slowed down or even showed a slight increase in recent few years due to ageing population and changing in notification behaviour. In 2000, the number of tuberculosis notifications was 7 578 and the notification rate remained high at 114 per 100 000 population. This raised the concern on tuberculosis control in Hong Kong. Currently, Hong Kong is classified under 'places with intermediate tuberculosis burden with good health infrastructure' by World Health Organisation in the Western Pacific Region. The future overall control strategy will rely very much on collaboration between different sectors, especially in relation to setting standards of treatment and care, strengthening surveillance system and laboratory support, etc.

結核病

雖然本港的結核病呈報率在過去二十年間有全面下降的趨勢（圖12），但是由於人口老化及呈報行為轉變，近年呈報率的跌幅開始減慢，甚至輕微上升。二零零零年呈報的結核病個案共有 7 578 宗，而呈報率仍然高達每十萬人口有 114 宗。控制結核病是本港關注的問題。近年，世界衛生組織把香港歸類為西太平洋區具備良好衛生設施及中度結核病負擔的地方之一。未來的整體控制策略有賴多方面配合，當中包括訂定治療及護理標準、加強監察及化驗輔助等。

Figure 12 Notification and Death Rates of Tuberculosis, 1981 - 2000

圖12 一九八一年至二零零零年結核病呈報率及死亡率



Viral hepatitis

There were 683 notifications on viral hepatitis in 2000, of which 505 were hepatitis A, 137 were hepatitis B, 36 were non-A non-B and five were unclassified. Compared with the situation in the previous year, there was an increase in hepatitis A by 18.5% and a decrease in hepatitis B by 9.9%.

Vaccine preventable diseases

A childhood immunisation programme is provided free of charge by the Department of Health. It includes oral polio vaccine, triple vaccine (diphtheria, tetanus, whole-cell pertussis), measles-mumps-and-rubella vaccine, hepatitis B vaccine, and BCG. In October 2000, the Regional Commission for the Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication in the Western Pacific Region of the World Health Organisation declared that transmission of indigenous wild poliovirus in the Western Pacific Region, including Hong Kong, had been interrupted. This was an important milestone in the prevention and control of infectious diseases.

The number of notifications of rubella rose sharply from 52 in 1999 to 2 338 in 2000. The vast majority of the cases were adult males, who were not the target population of the routine rubella immunisation programme. Complications were uncommon. The spread of rubella infection was contained by vaccination of susceptible contacts and health education. Two cases of congenital rubella syndrome were reported in 2000.

There were 77 cases of mumps, 61 cases of measles, 11 cases of whooping cough and seven cases of tetanus in 2000. The trends of selected vaccine preventable diseases are shown in figure 13.

病毒性肝炎

二零零零年共有 683 宗病毒性肝炎呈報個案，其中 505 宗為甲型肝炎，137 宗為乙型肝炎，36 宗為非甲非乙型肝炎，另外五宗則未能編類。跟去年比較，甲型肝炎個案上升 18.5%，而乙型肝炎個案則下降 9.9%。

疫苗可預防的疾病

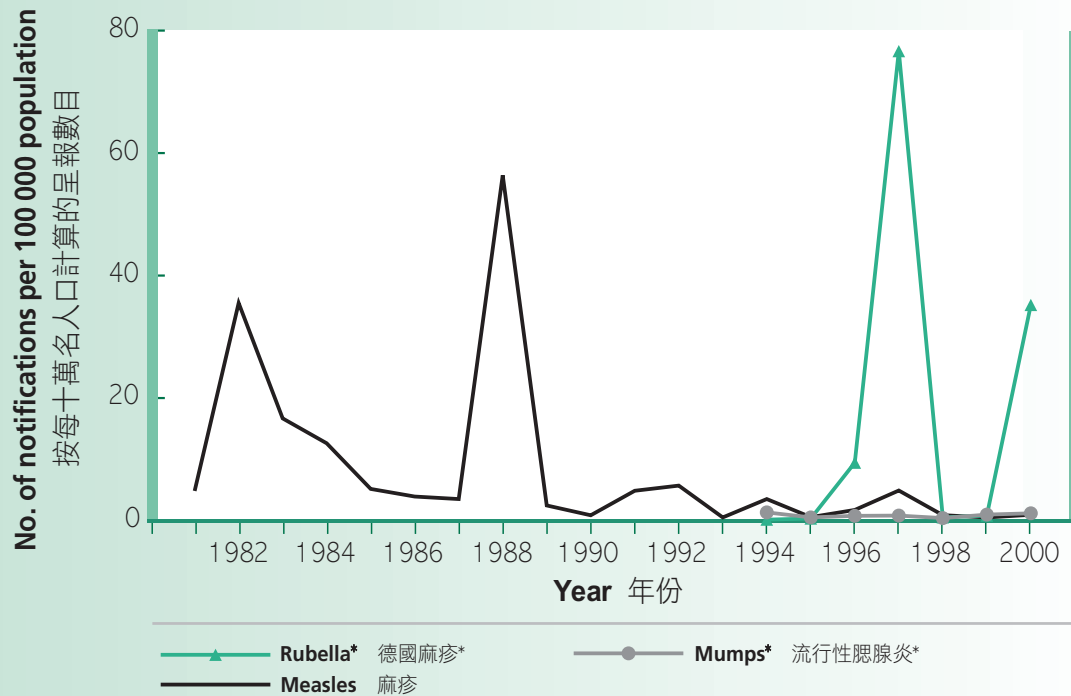
衛生署為兒童提供免費防疫注射。注射計劃包括口服小兒麻痺疫苗、白喉、百日咳及破傷風混合疫苗、麻疹、流行性腮腺炎及德國麻疹混合疫苗、乙型肝炎疫苗，以及卡介苗。在二零零零年十月，世界衛生組織的「消滅脊髓灰質炎（小兒麻痺）野株病毒西太平洋地區委員會」宣布本土性小兒麻痺野株病毒的傳播已在西太平洋區（包括香港）絕跡。這是預防及控制傳染病的重要里程碑。

德國麻疹的呈報個案數字由一九九九年的 52 宗急劇上升至二零零零年的 2338 宗。大部分個案為成年男性，他們均不是現行德國麻疹防疫注射計劃的對象。併發症並不常見。衛生署已為接觸個案而未有免疫能力的人士注射疫苗及進行健康教育，以防止德國麻疹蔓延。在二零零零年，共接獲兩宗先天性德國麻疹綜合症報告。

二零零零年內，有 77 宗流行性腮腺炎、61 宗麻疹、11 宗百日咳及七宗破傷風。圖 13 顯示部分疫苗可預防疾病的趨勢。

Figure 13 Notification Rates of Selected Vaccine Preventable Diseases, 1981 - 2000

圖 13 一九八一年至二零零零年部分疫苗可預防的疾病呈報率



Note * Notifiable since 1994.

註 * 由一九九四年起須呈報的疾病

Foodborne diseases

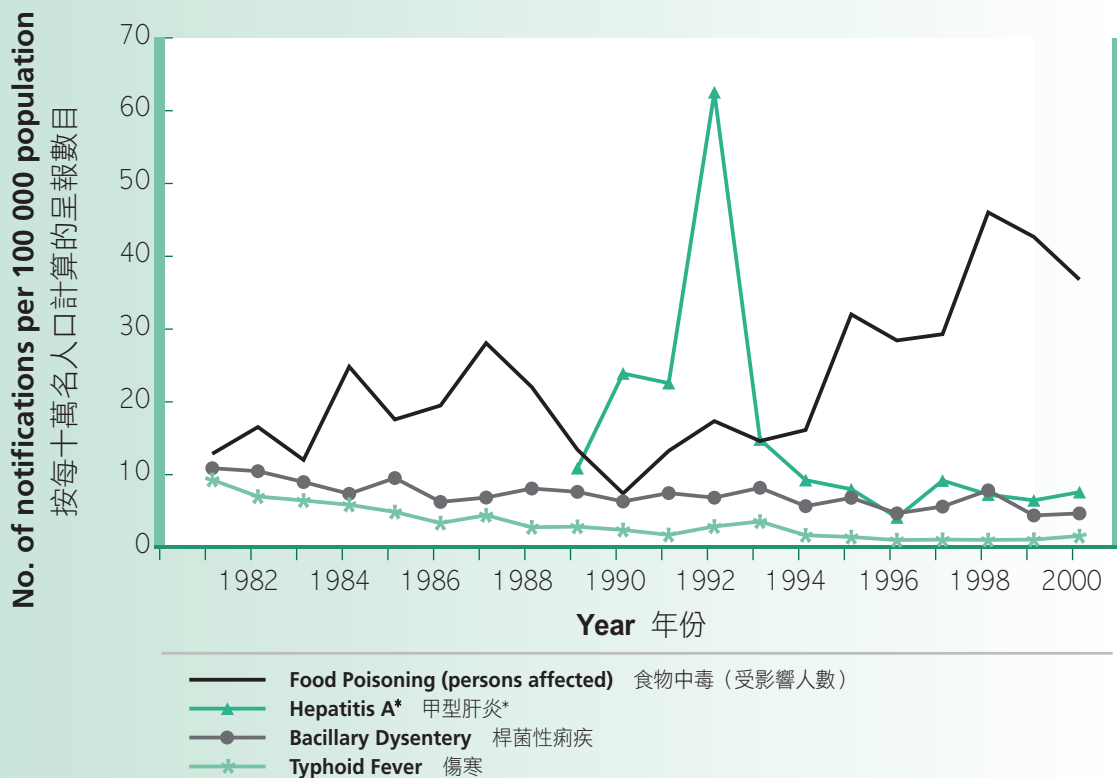
In 2000, there were 618 outbreak reports of food poisoning affecting 2 452 persons, 505 cases of hepatitis A, 310 cases of bacillary dysentery and 105 cases of typhoid fever. Figure 14 shows the trends of these diseases.

食物傳播的疾病

在二零零零年，共有 2 452 人在 618 宗食物中毒呈報個案中受影響，並有 505 宗甲型肝炎、310 宗桿菌性痢疾及 105 宗傷寒的呈報個案。圖 14 顯示這些疾病的趨勢。

Figure 14 Notification Rates of Common Foodborne Diseases, 1981 - 2000

圖 14 一九八一年至二零零零年常見的食物傳播疾病呈報率



Note * The classification of Hepatitis A has been available since 1989

註 * 甲型肝炎由一九八九年起分類計算。

Bacteria continued to be the major cause of food poisoning outbreaks, accounting for 74.3% of all outbreaks. The top five causative agents of food poisoning outbreaks, in terms of number of outbreaks, were *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (35.9%), *Staphylococcus aureus* (17.8%), *Salmonella* (14.4%), clenbuterol (6.6%) and ciguatoxin (5.3%). Thirty-seven outbreaks affecting 85 persons were caused by clenbuterol-tainted pork and pig offal. Norwalk-like viruses were emerging as an important cause of food poisoning. In 2000, it was incriminated in about 4.0% of all outbreaks, most of which were associated with consumption of raw or under cooked oysters. There were three outbreaks associated with pesticide-contaminated vegetables affecting eight persons.

細菌仍然是食物中毒的主要原因，佔所有發病個案的 74.3%。以呈報個案數字計算，引起食物中毒最常見的五種致病原是副溶血性弧菌（35.9%）、金黃色葡萄球菌（17.8%）、沙門氏菌（14.4%）、「鹽酸克崙特羅」（6.6%）及雪卡毒（5.3%）。由含有「鹽酸克崙特羅」的豬肉及豬內臟引起的個案共 37 宗，受影響人數為 85 人。諾沃克病毒已成為其中一種重要的食物中毒病原。在二零零零年，懷疑因諾沃克病毒引致的食物中毒個案約佔所有個案的 4.0%，大部分與進食生蠔或未煮熟的蠔有關。因食用受農藥污染蔬菜而中毒的個案則有三宗，共影響八人。