Background. Tick-borne diseases are increasing in incidence in the United States; however, limited data exist on regional trends of associated hospitalizations. Using a nationally distributed dataset of US hospital-based medical records, we aimed to assess trends in incidence of hospitalizations from tick-borne disease by geographic region.

Methods. Data were examined from 156 US hospitals from 2009 to 2014 to identify hospitalizations with tick-borne disease. Cases were described and Poisson regression used to estimate the annual percent change (APC) and associated 95% confidence intervals (CI) in incidence by region over time.

Results. Overall, 2,543 hospitalized patients with tick-borne disease were identified (average annual incidence = 28.4 cases/100,000 hospitalized persons), including 1,613 (63%) with Lyme disease, 379 (15%) tick-borne fever, 293 (12%) ehrlichiosis, 93 (4%) babesiosis, 43 (2%) rickettsiosis, and 122 (4%) multiple tick-related diagnoses. Tick-borne diseases varied significantly by region, with Lyme disease more frequent in those residing in the Northeast (68%) than the South (57%) or West (42%) and tick-borne fever more common in the West (28%) vs. the South (18%), Midwest (14%), and Northeast (13%) (P < 0.0001). Significant increases in tick-borne disease hospitalizations were identified across nearly all US regions, ranging from 15% per year in the South (95% CI=8-24%) to 45% per year in the West (34-58%), with the exception of the Northeast, where incidence declined by 6% per year (0.04-11%). Lyme disease hospitalizations showed similar trends, with the greatest increase in the South (APC = 53%, 95% CI = 33–76%) and a decrease in the Northeast (APC = 13%; 3%-23%). Hospitalizations with tick-borne fever increased in the Midwest (APC = 49%; 8-206%) and Northeast (APC = 18%; 4-34%); with ehrlichiosisincreased in the West (APC = 231%; 75-306%); and with babesiosis increased in the South (APC = 50%; 12-201%) and the Midwest (APC = 21%; 5-39%).

Conclusion. Incidence of hospitalizations from tick-borne disease is increasing throughout much of the nation, except in the Northeast where decreases in Lyme disease were observed. While hospitalizations with tick-borne diseases remain rare, the increases noted are substantial and may reflect rising incidence of these diseases within the represented states.

Figure 1. Regional trends in incidence of hospitalizations associated with a tick-borne disease diagnosis in the United States from 2009-2014.



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1721. An Outbreak of Botulism Associated With Nacho Cheese Sauce From a Gas Station in California

Hilary Rosen, MPH¹; Akiko Kimura, MD¹; Rituparna Mukhopadhyay, PhD²; June Nash, RN Sr PHN⁷; Jason Boetzer, REHS⁴; Alyssa Poe, BS Microbiology²; Selam Tecle, MPH⁵; Katherine McAuley, RN MS PHN³; Olivia Kasirye, MD MS³; Alvaro Garza, MD MPH⁶; John Crandall, BS²; Mahtab Shahkarami, MS²; Vishnu Chaturvedi, PhD⁷; David Kiang, PhD⁸; Jeff Vidanes, BS⁹; Kelly McCoy, REHS⁴; Tammy Derby, REHS⁴; Mark Barcellos, REHS⁴; Seema Jain, MD⁵ and D Vugia, MD⁵, ¹California Department of Public Health, Los Angeles, California, ²Microbial Diseases Laboratory, California Department of Public Health, Richmond, California, ³Department of Health Services, County of Sacramento, Sacramento, California, ⁴Environmental Management Department, Sacramento County, Mather, California, ⁵California Department of Public Health, Richmond, California, ⁶San Joaquin County Health Department, Modesto, California, ⁷California Institute for Medical Research, San Jose, California, ⁸California Department of Public Health, Food and Drug Laboratory Branch (FDLB), Richmond, California and ⁹Food and Drug Branch, California Department of Public Health, Sacramento, California

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Background. Foodborne botulism is rare with 0–6 cases reported annually in California. During April 24–28, 2017, 4 hospitalized patients with suspect foodborne botulism were reported to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) from 2 adjacent California counties. In collaboration with local public and environmental health, CDPH conducted an investigation to determine the magnitude of the outbreak, identify potential sources, and implement control measures.

Methods. A case was defined as clinical botulism in a visitor to or resident of Sacramento County with illness onset during April 20 to May 5, 2017. Case-patients or their proxies were interviewed. Patient specimens and suspect food items were tested for the presence of botulinum toxin and toxin-producing *Clostridium botulinum*; *C. botulinum* isolates underwent whole genome sequencing (WGS) at the CDPH laboratory.

Results. In April–May 2017, a total of 10 patients were hospitalized with laboratory-confirmed botulism. Median age was 34 years (range 16–57); 7 were male, and 8 were Latino. All patients required intensive care, 7 required ventilator support, and 1 died. Nine patients confirmed visiting Gas Station A in the week before illness onset; 8 reported consuming nacho cheese sauce served from a dispenser there. Inspection of Gas Station A on May 5 indicated that the cheese in the dispenser had a best by date of April 11; the dispenser was removed that day, before all patients were identified. The remaining pouch of nacho cheese sauce was laboratory confirmed to have botulinum toxin type A and toxin-producing *C. botulinum*. *C. botulinum* isolates from 3 patients clustered with the cheese isolate by WGS.

Conclusion. Contaminated nacho cheese sauce served at a local gas station was the source of the largest outbreak of foodborne botulism reported to date in California. No other botulism cases associated with this commercial cheese sauce were identified elsewhere in the United States; although the mechanism of contamination is unclear, the cheese was likely contaminated locally. Intensive public health investigation and intervention, before all cases were identified and *C. botulinum* toxin was detected in the product, likely prevented additional cases and possible deaths

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1722. The Changing Epidemiology of Candidemia in the United States: Injection Drug Use as an Emerging Risk Factor for Candidemia

Alexia Y Zhang, MPH¹; Sarah Shrum, MPH²; Sabrina Williams, MPH³; Brittany Vonbank, MPH¹; Sherry Hillis, MPH⁵; Devra Barter, MS⁶; Sarah Petnic, MPH⁷; Lee H. Harrison, MD⁸; Ghinwa Dumyati, MD, FSHEA⁹; Erin C. Phipps, DVM, MPH¹⁰, Rebecca Pierce, PhD, MS, BSN¹; William Schaffner, MD, FIDSA, FSHEA¹¹; Monica M. Farley, MD, FIDSA¹²; Rajal K Mody, MD MPH^{4,13}; Tom Chiller, MD, MPH³; Brendan R. Jackson, MD, MPH³ and Snigdha Vallabhaneni, MD, MPH³, ¹Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention, Oregon Health Authority, Portland, Oregon, ²New Mexico Department of Health, Santa Fe, New Mexico, ³Mycotic Diseases Branch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, ⁴Minnesota Department of Health, St. Paul, Minnesota, ⁵Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee, ⁶Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Denver, Colorado, ⁷California Emerging Infections Program, Oakland, California, ⁸University of Pittsburgh, Pintsburgh, Pennsylvania, ⁹NY Emerging Infections Program, Center for Community Health and Prevention, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, New York, ¹⁰New Mexico Emerging Infections Program, University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee, ¹²Department of Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine and Atlanta VA Medical Center, Atlanta, Georgia and ¹³Division of State and Local Readiness, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response, CDC, Atlanta, Georgia

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Background. Known risk factors for candidemia include diabetes, malignancy, antibiotics, total parenteral nutrition (TPN), prolonged hospitalization, abdominal surgery, and central venous catheters. Injection drug use (IDU) is not a common risk factor. We used data from CDC Emerging Infections Program's candidemia surveillance to assess prevalence of IDU among candidemia cases and compare IDU and non-IDU cases.

Methods. Active, population-based candidemia surveillance was conducted in 45 counties in 9 states during January–December 2017. Data from 2014 to 2016 were available from 4 states and were used to look for trends. A case was defined as blood culture with *Candida* in a surveillance area resident. We collected clinical information, including IDU in the past 12 months. Differences between IDU and non-IDU cases were tested using logistic regression.

Results. Of 1,018 candidemia cases in 2017, 123 (12%) occurred in the context of recent IDU (1% in Minnesota and 27% in New Mexico) (Figure 1). In the 4 states with pre-2017 data, the proportion of IDU cases increased from 7% in 2014 to 15% in 2017, with the proportion in Tennessee nearly tripling from 7% to 18% (Figure 2). IDU cases were younger than non-IDU cases (median 34 vs. 62 years, P < 0.001). Compared with non-IDU cases, IDU cases were less likely to have diabetes (16% vs. 35%; OR 0.4, CI 0.2–0.6), malignancies (7% vs. 30%; OR 0.2, CI 0.1–0.3), abdominal surgery (6% vs. 19%; OR 0.3, CI 0.1–0.6), receive TPN (6% vs. 27%; OR 0.2, CI 0.1–0.4) and were more likely to have hepatitis C (96% vs. 47%; OR 16.1, CI 10.4–24.9), be homeless (13% vs. 1%; OR 17.8, CI 7.1–44.6), and have polymicrobial blood cultures (33% vs. 17%; ors. 1%, OS vs. 364 and in-hospital mortality was 7% vs. 28% for IDU and non-IDU cases, respectively.

Conclusion. In 2017, 1 in 8 candidemia cases had a history of IDU, including a quarter of cases in some sites. The proportion of such cases increased since 2014. IDU cases lacked many of the typical risk factors for candidemia, suggesting that IDU may be an independent risk factor. Given the growing opioid epidemic, further study is necessary to elucidate how people who inject drugs acquire candidemia and design effective interventions for prevention.

