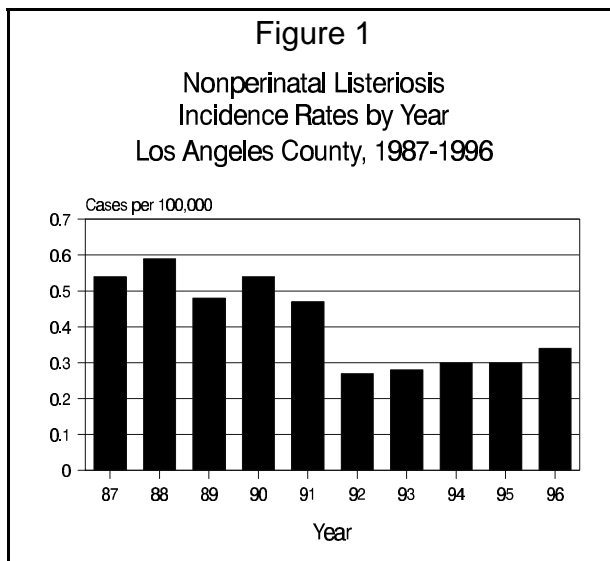




LISTERIOSIS, NONPERINATAL

CRUDE DATA	
Number of Cases	30
Annual Incidence ^a	
LA County	0.34
United States	N/A
Age at Onset	
Mean	61.1
Median	68.2
Range	8-85 yrs
Case Fatality	
LA County	26.7 %
United States	N/A

^a Cases per 100,000 population.
N/A - not available.



ETIOLOGY

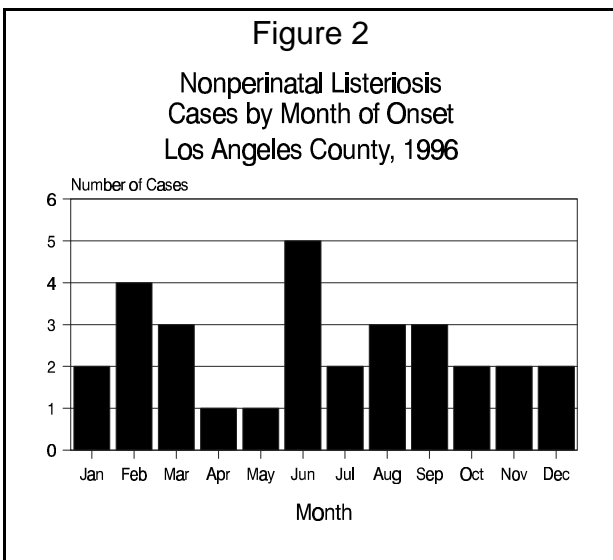
Listeria monocytogenes is a gram-positive bacterium.

DISEASE ABSTRACT

The incidence of nonperinatal listeriosis remained at a level comparable to the previous year. This disease affects the elderly and immunocompromised persons, such as those afflicted with cancer or HIV, and those on immuno-suppressive therapy.

STRATIFIED DATA

Trends: Since 1992, the annual incidence of nonperinatal listeriosis has been stable. The 1996 annual rate remained similar to the rate in 1995, 0.30 cases per 100,000 (Figure 1).





Seasonality: There was a peak in the number of reported cases (Figure 2) during the month of June.

Age: As in previous years, individuals aged 65 and over had the highest risk of nonperinatal listeriosis (1.95 per 100,000 population) followed by persons 45 to 54 years old (0.41 per 100,000) (Figure 3). Sixty percent of cases were greater than 65 years old.

Sex: The male-to-female rate ratio was 1.7:1.

Race/Ethnicity: Blacks had the highest incidence rate of nonperinatal listeriosis (0.60 per 100,000 population). Whites had the second highest rate (0.53 per 100,000), followed by Asians (0.28 per 100,000). Hispanics had the lowest rate (0.15 per 100,000) (Figure 4).

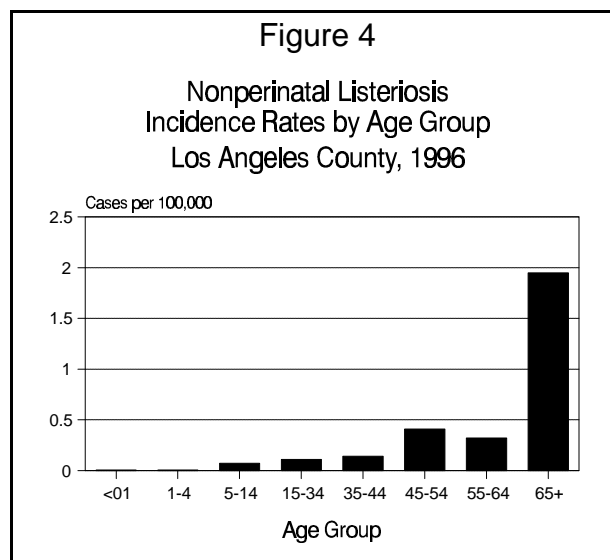
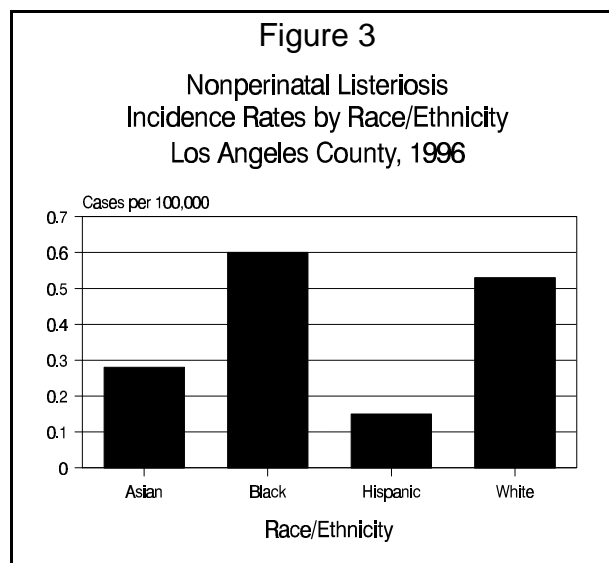
Location: Cases of nonperinatal listeriosis were reported from all areas of the County with Alhambra, El Monte, and Southwest Districts having the highest rates (0.81, 0.64, and 0.54 per 100,000 population, respectively).

Predisposing conditions: Nine persons (30%) had received antibiotics prior to the onset of listeriosis.

Culture sites: The most common sites of *Listeria monocytogenes* isolation were blood (83%) and cerebrospinal fluid (30%); one isolate was obtained from a knee aspiration.

COMMENTS

Table 1 describes the underlying medical conditions of nonperinatal listeriosis cases





in 1996. Nearly half of the cases were on steroid therapy before the onset of listeriosis. Cancer, diabetes, and kidney diseases were the most prevalent conditions among cases (30%, 17%, and 17%, respectively). Two cases had a history of alcoholism and another two cases were associated with HIV/AIDS (7% for each).

Table 1. Underlying Medical Conditions in Cases of Nonperinatal Listeriosis, Los Angeles County, 1996

Medical Condition ^a	Number (N= 30)	Percent
Steroid use	14	47
Cancer	9	30
Diabetes	5	17
Kidney disease	5	17
Alcoholism	2	7
HIV/AIDS	2	7

^aEach case may have more than one underlying medical condition.