TYPHOID FEVER, CARRIER

CRUDE DATA	
Number of New Carriers	4
Total Number of Carriers	14
Annual Incidence[a]	
LA County	N/A[b]
United States	N/A
Age at Diagnosis	
Mean	46 years
Range	26-69 years
Case Fatality	
LA County	0.0 %
United States	N/A

Figure 1
Typhoid Fever Carriers
by Year of Detection
LAC, 1995–2004

[a] Cases per 100,000 population.

[b] Rates based on less than 20 observations are unreliable.
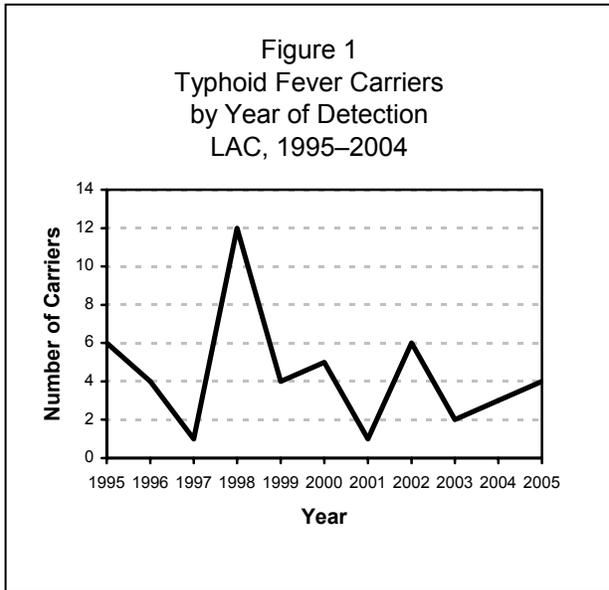
DESCRIPTION

The chronic typhoid carrier state can occur following symptomatic or subclinical infections of *Salmonella typhi*. Among untreated cases, 10% will shed bacteria for three months after initial onset of symptoms and 2-5% will become chronic carriers. The chronic carrier state occurs most commonly among middle-aged women.

DISEASE ABSTRACT

- There were four new carriers identified in 2005.
- During 2005, two carriers were closed to follow-up and a total of fourteen carriers remained under case management in LAC at the end of 2005.

COMMENTS

All new carriers were foreign born; three were female. Three previously unknown carriers were found while testing household contacts to three new acute typhoid cases, all in the same household. The other carrier was identified during a diagnostic tissue culture.

Upon identification, each new carrier is added to the typhoid carrier registry. All carriers are visited semi-annually by a public health nurse to assess and emphasize compliance with a signed typhoid carrier agreement. Per state code, carriers are to remain under the supervision of the local health officer until cleared. Conditions for release from supervision are also mandated by state code. An approved public health laboratory must test the cultures for the purpose of release.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Disease information is available from CDC at:
www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/typhoidfever_g.htm

General information and reporting information about this and other diseases in LAC is available at:
www.lapublichealth.org/acd/food.htm