

6.3 Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease

Summary

Number of cases, 2008: 2

Number of cases, 2007: 3

Two cases of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) were notified in 2008 compared to three cases in 2007. Both cases in 2008 were aged greater than 64 years and were sporadic CJD cases.

In total, 43 cases of CJD were notified since CJD was first specified as a notifiable disease in December 1996. Figure 1 shows the 43 CJD notifications by age group. Over 80% (n=36) of the cases were aged greater than 54 years. Of the 43 cases, 23 were male and 20 were female. Forty cases were sporadic CJD, two were familial CJD and one was iatrogenic CJD.

Variant CJD (vCJD) is specified as a separate notifiable

disease. No cases of vCJD were notified in 2008. Four cases of vCJD were notified since vCJD became notifiable in December 1996. A summary of these four cases was provided in the 2006 HPSC annual report.

Data presented in this summary are based on notifications from HSE Areas and from the Irish National Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Surveillance Unit. The figures were extracted from the Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on the 17th August 2009 and may differ slightly from those published previously due to ongoing updating of notification data on CIDR. Annual figures published here are based on the year the notification was entered on CIDR and consequently may differ from annual figures published by the Irish National Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Surveillance Unit.

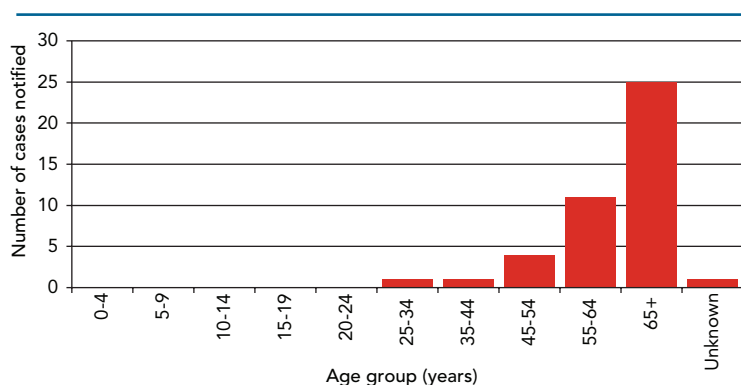


Figure 1. Number of CJD notifications (n=43) from December 1996 to 2008 by age group