

6.3 Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease

Summary

Number of notifications, 2006: 6

Number of notifications, 2005: 4

In 2006, six cases of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) were notified compared to four in 2005. All six cases in 2006 were aged greater than 54 years and five were male. Five of the cases were reported as sporadic CJD and one as familial CJD.

In total, 38 cases of CJD were notified since CJD was first specified as a notifiable disease in December 1996, giving an average of approximately four notifications each year.

Figure 1 shows the 38 CJD notifications by age group. Over 80% (n=31) of the cases were aged greater than 54 years. Of the 38 cases, 21 were male and 17 were female. The CJD type was reported for 37 of the cases; 34 were sporadic CJD, two were familial CJD and one was iatrogenic CJD.

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 2007 and may differ from those published previously due to ongoing updating of notification data on CIDR.

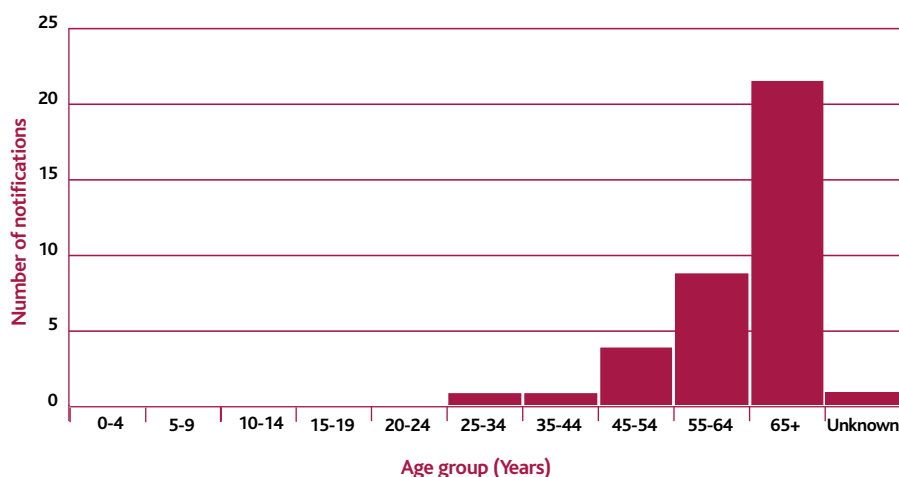


Figure 1. Number of CJD notifications (n=38) from December 1996 to 2006 by age group

6.4 Variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease

Summary

Number of notifications, 2006: 1

Number of notifications, 2005: 2

One case of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) was notified during 2006. The case was male and in the age group 20-24 years.

Four cases of vCJD were notified since vCJD became notifiable in December 1996, with one case notified in 1999, two in 2005 and one in 2006.

Of the four cases of vCJD notified since 1996, two were in the age group 20-24 years, one was in the age group 25-34 years and one was in the age group 55-64 years. Two cases were male and two were female. Two of the cases had resided for prolonged periods in the United Kingdom.

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