

Abstract

Haemophilus influenzae is a frequent cause of meningitis, sepsis, pneumonia, arthritis and epiglottitis in children and immunocompromised patients. The epidemiological survey of invasive H. influenzae had been done for many years in Taiwan. This study continued to surveillance the invasive H. influenzae infection disease from January through December 2002. Forty-eight cases of invasive H. influenzae disease were identified by reported system from Centers for Disease Control in Taiwan. There were 24 (57.1%) cases of type b disease; and 18 non-type b disease. With regard to age distribution, the patients of Hib disease 19/24 (79.2%) were younger 5-year-old; 5 cases were older than 60-year-old, and none were younger than 4 months old. Among the 42 patients, 16 cases had pneumonia, 16 cases had sepsis and 6 cases had meningitis, and 4 patients had other disease entities, i.e. cellulitis in 2 patients, epiglottitis in 1 and peritonitis in 1. In terms of prognosis, 16.7% patients died. The rate of resistance to antibiotics were 73.8% for ampicillin, 21.4% for cefaclor, 11.9% for cefuroxime, 16.7% for amoxicillin/clavulanate, 45.2% for chloramphenicol, 45.2% for tetracycline. Cefixime, ceftriaxone, and ciprofloxacin were active against all H. influenzae isolates. The molecular epidemiological study was done by pulse-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE) method. The data revealed all isolates had diverse genotype, without clonal distribution.

Keywords : Haemophilus influenzae ; antibiotic susceptibility ; serotype