

Abstract

During 1960 to 1990, the domestic case number of meningococcal disease did not exceed 10, but it has been increasing apparently since 2001 because of unknown reason. This study was therefore conducted with the purpose of understanding the epidemiologic and clinical characteristics of domestic meningococcal cases.

Case survey, complements examining and medical chart review were applied for the cases who onset from 2001 to 2003. Additionally, we tried to analysis the risk factors by a case-control study for the cases in 2003.

Based on the case survey, the infants under 1 year old and the adults between 15 and 24 years old were the main cases of mengingococcal disease during 2001-2003. This result consists with the general knowledge of the disease. The infants are more likely affected because their immunogenic functions have not developed maturely. The young adults may have more risk due to living in army or school groups, in which there are more chances to contact with the carriers closely. Comparing the incidence rate among different races, the aborigine has the highest rate, 3.5 cases per million people.

The complement values are also influenced the odds ratio of disease onset. However, we could not find the significant risk factors of mengingococcal disease because of the deficiency of research subjects.

Keywords : MENINGOCOCCAL ; Epidemiologic surveillance of onset risk factors ; Meningococcal disease ; case-control study ; risk factor