Campylobacteriosis

Campylobacteriosis is caused by a Gram-negative bacterium. Characterized by acute onset of diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fever, and malaise; it is the most common bacterial enteric infection reported. It is of worldwide epidemiologic importance due to the fecal-oral route of infection and the extensive reservoir of the organism in both wild and domestic animals.

Most illnesses are sporadic and outbreaks have been associated with undercooked meat (often chicken), unpasteurized milk or non-chlorinated water. Infections occur year-round in Oregon, with peak incidence in the summer months. Proper food handling and water treatment, along with good hygienic practices (hand washing!) are the key to prevention.

Since 1996, six outbreaks of Campylobacter have been investigated: two foodborne, one waterborne, two from animal contact and one of unknown etiology. No outbreaks were reported in 2005; all cases were considered sporadic.
Campylobacteriosis
by Report Month
Oregon, 2005

Cases

Month

Mean 2000-2004

Incidence of Campylobacteriosis
by Age and Sex
Oregon, 2005

Cases/100,000

Age

Male
Female