

Surveillance report.

Annual surveillance report: Listeria in Scotland, 2018

Prepared by: Gastrointestinal and Zoonotic Team

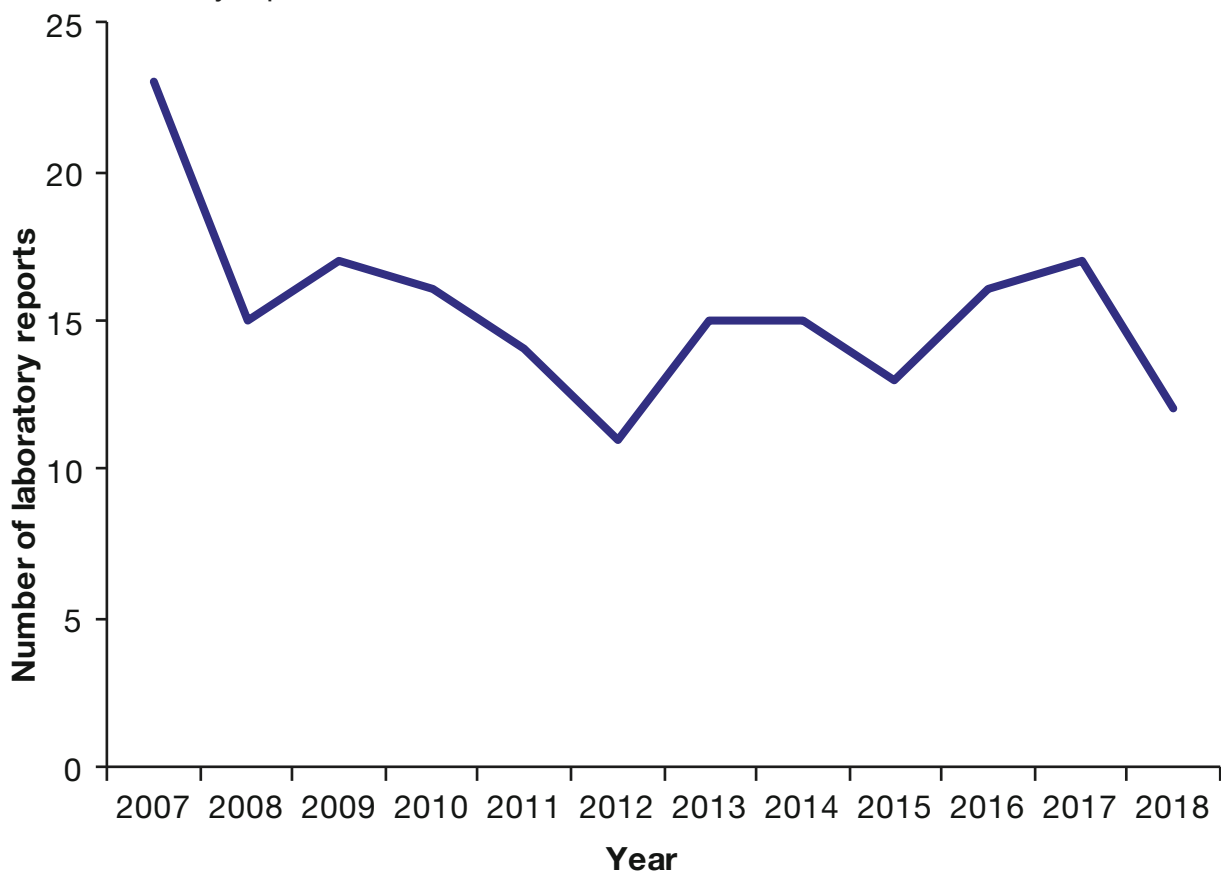
Listeria monocytogenes

The importance of *L. monocytogenes* as a gastro-intestinal pathogen arises not from the number of reported cases, which are relatively low compared to many other pathogens, but rather due to the severity of infection and high mortality. In line with reporting in the rest of the UK and Europe pregnancy associated cases are counted as one case, even when both the mother and infant are positive.

Infection with *L. monocytogenes* can cause an influenza like illness, septicaemia or a meningoencephalitis. Pregnant women, newborn infants, the elderly and the immunocompromised are most at risk.

There were 12 cases of *L. monocytogenes* reported in 2018, a slight decline on the 17 cases reported in 2017, and reflects the random year on year variation seen in the small number of cases (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Laboratory reports of Listeria to HPS, 2007-2018



Acknowledgements

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HPS Surveillance Report

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