

15438 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

-- Shigella	16	(4.3%)
-- Salmonella	15	(4.1%)
-- Enteropathic E. coli	161	(44%)
-- Edwardsiella	7	(1.9%)
-- Yersinia pseudotuberculosis	2	(0.5%)
-- Arizerra	1	(0.3%)

Among the Shigella isolates, the most common antibiotic sensitivity pattern was resistance to ampicillin, tetracycline and chloramphenicol with susceptibility retained to colistin, gentamicin and sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim. Antibiotic sensitivity among the Salmonella and enteropathic E coli was more variable. None of the bacterial pathogens isolated among the Vietnamese children were Salmonella typhi, but they were nonetheless the cause of serious disease in a number of children. (11)

Although the isolation of antibiotic resistant Shigella and Salmonella appear to have been isolated incidents, the Mexican epidemic of typhoid fever demonstrated that the threat of epidemics due to chloramphenicol resistant Salmonella exists. The risk is greatest in countries with high levels of poverty, poor sanitation, crowded living conditions, the presence of Salmonella typhi and the widespread use of antibiotics.

Cases of typhoid fever due to the chloramphenicol resistant strain of Salmonella typhi that caused the Mexican epidemic have been reported in the United States and Great Britain. Eighty cases, in 17 states, have been reported in the United States since the Mexican epidemic. Although this does not pose