

7 Attack rate and epidemic curve

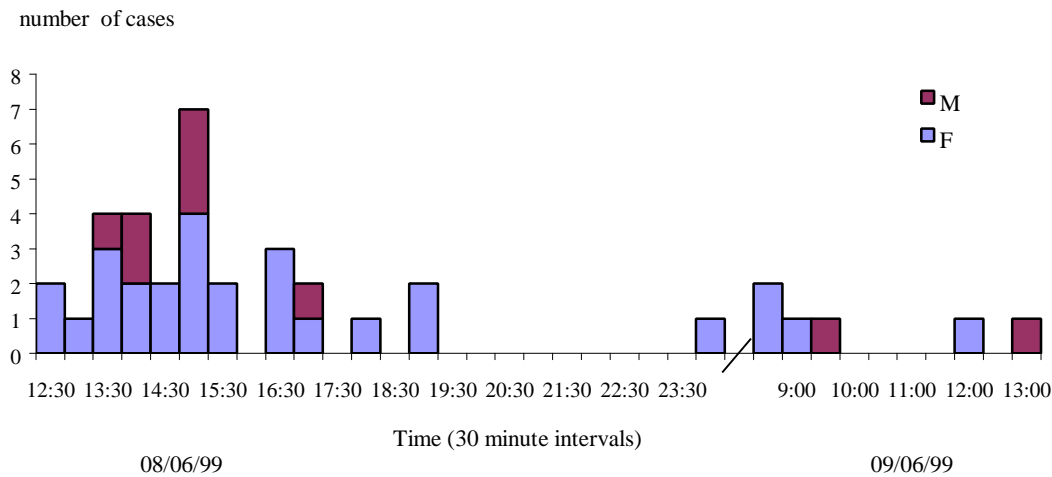
7.1 Attack rate and epidemic curve in Bornem

In Bornem, the outbreak occurred the 8th June and the 9th June. Thirty-seven students among the 280 were identified as cases and the attack rate (AR) was 13.2%. The AR was 15.6% (28/179) among girls and 8.9% (9/101) among boys (RR= 1.8; 95%CI: 0.9-3.6). The mean age of the cases was 13 years, the median was 13.5 years (min. 10, max. 17).

Thirty-one cases occurred on 8th and 6 occurred on the morning of 9th June. The median of occurrence was at 3 p.m. on 8 June (figure 1).

No cases were observed among the school staff.

Figure 1 - Cases by time of onset, Coca-Cola related complaints, Bornem school, Belgium, 1999.



7.2 Attack rate and epidemic curve in the other schools

In the other schools, outbreaks occurred on three different days, 10th June in Brugge, 11th June in Harelbeke and 14th June in Lochristi and Kortrijk. Seventy-five cases occurred among the 2055 students of the 4 other schools. The AR was 3.6%. The AR was lower than in Bornem. The AR was 4.3% (72/1666) among girls and 0.7% (3/394) among boys (OR= 5.7; 95%CI: 1.8-17.9). The mean age of the cases was 14 years; the median was 15 years (min. 13, max. 19).

Seventy-two cases occurred on the first day of the outbreak and 3 occurred on the following day. Except in Lochristi, the spreading of cases was larger than in Bornem (Figures 2, 3, 4, 5).

Figure 2 - Cases by time of onset, Brugge, Belgium, 1999.

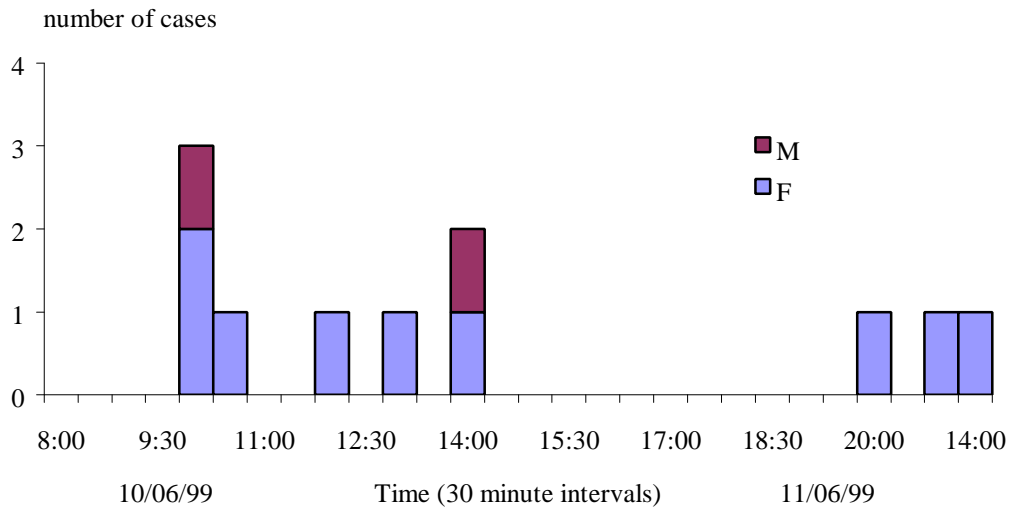


Figure 3 - Cases by time of onset, Harelbeke, Belgium, 1999.

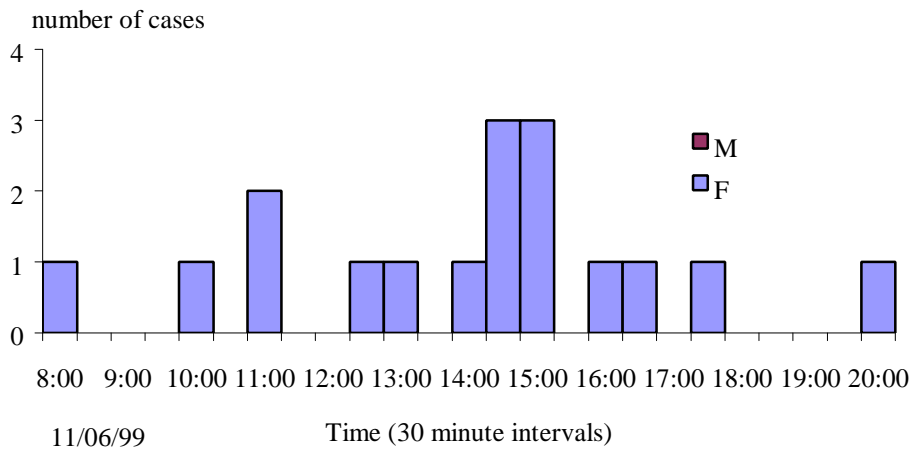


Figure 4 - Cases by time of onset, Kortrijk, Belgium, 1999.

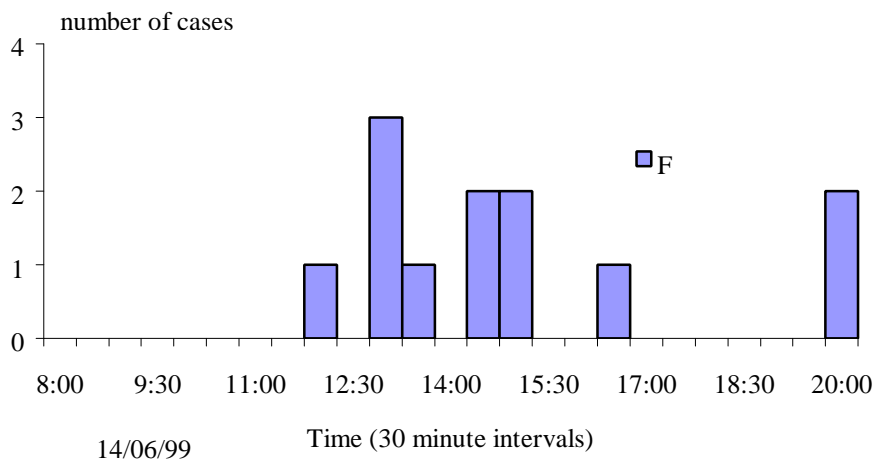


Figure 5 - Cases by time of onset, Lochristi, Belgium, 1999.

