

Antimicrobial susceptibility of invasive *Neisseria meningitidis*, 2003

The antimicrobial susceptibility of all 243 viable meningococcal isolates received at ESR from cases of invasive disease in 2003 was tested. All isolates were susceptible to penicillin, ceftriaxone and ciprofloxacin. One isolate (0.4%) was rifampicin resistant. 7.8% (19/243) of isolates had reduced penicillin susceptibility, with MICs of 0.12-0.5 mg/L. The proportion of isolates with reduced penicillin susceptibility since 1992 is shown in the figure, and shows a trend of increasing prevalence. Until 2002, all isolates with reduced penicillin susceptibility had MICs of 0.12 or 0.25 mg/L. In 2002, one isolate had a penicillin MIC of 0.5 mg/L, and, in 2003, three isolates had penicillin MICs of 0.5 mg/L.

Reduced susceptibility to penicillin among meningococci from invasive disease, 1992-2003

