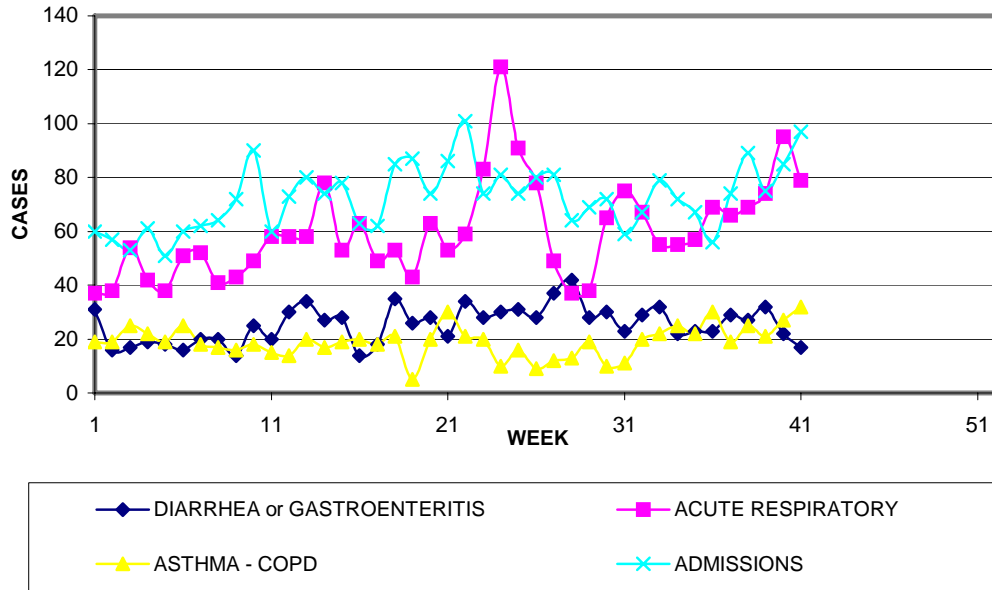


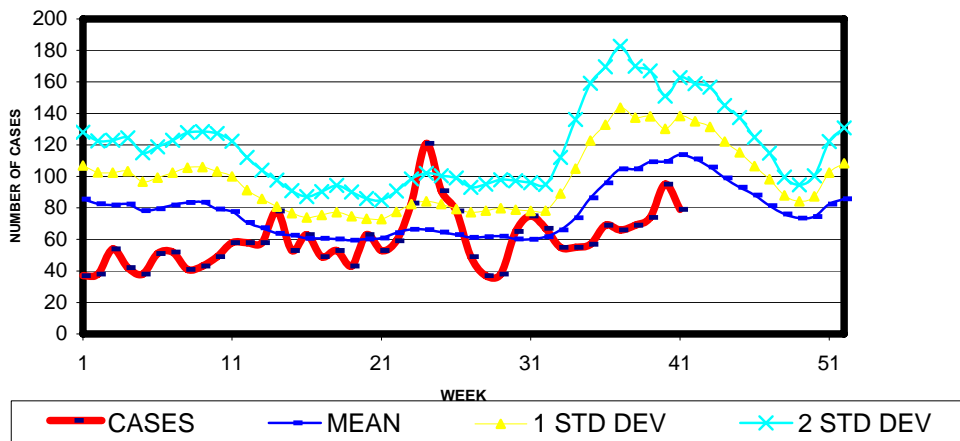
GUAM EPIDEMIOLOGY NEWSLETTER
 REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING: 10/07/2006 (Reporting week 2006-41)

GUAM REPORTS

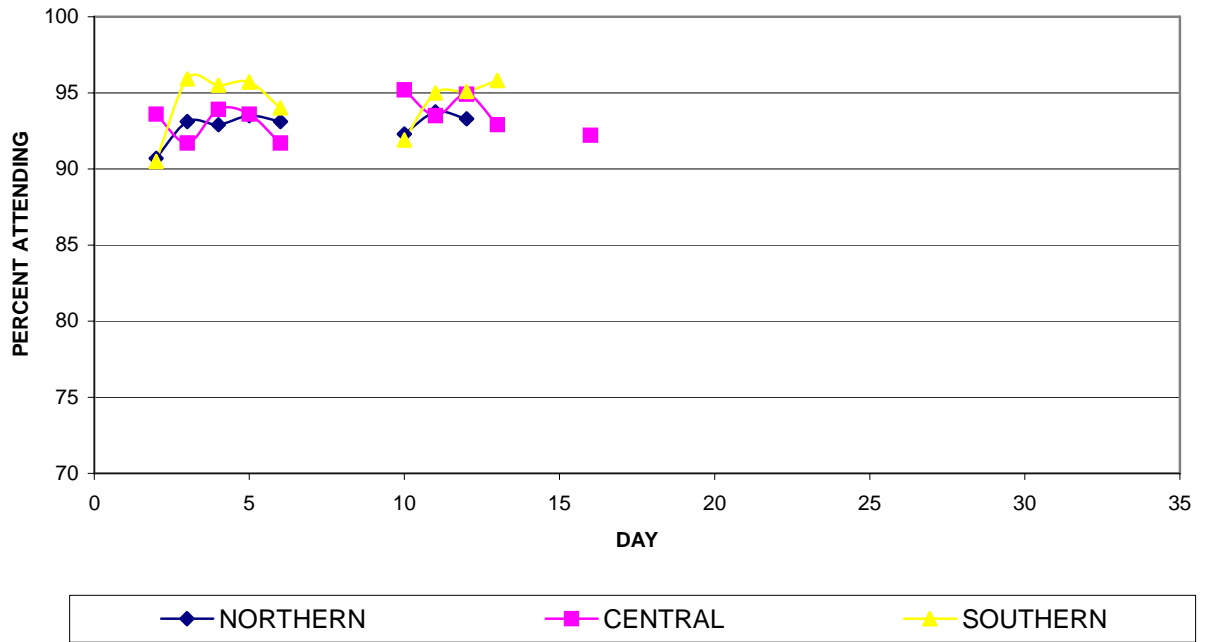
GUAM SYNDROMIC DISEASE SURVEILLANCE
GMHA-ED PATIENT DIAGNOSES BY WEEK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2006



GUAM ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISEASE SURVEILLANCE, 2006;
NUMBER OF PATIENTS SEEN IN THE GMHA-ED BY WEEK SEEN



**GUAM PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE BY REGION:
DAILY PERCENT IN ATTENDANCE, OCTOBER, 2006**

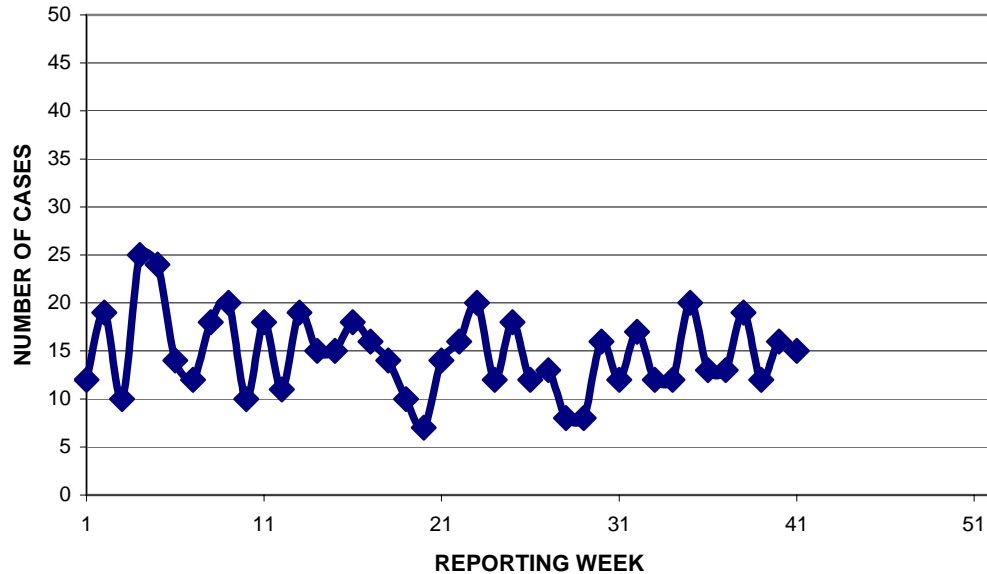


GUAM COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT
REPORTS RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK ENDING 10/14/2006

DISEASE	CASES
CAMPYLOBACTER	1
CHICKENPOX	8
CHLAMYDIA	4
CONJUNCTIVITIS	7
DENGUE	1
HEPATITIS VIRAL	1
MRSA	4
SALMONELLOSIS	2
STREP SORE THROAT	21
SYPHILIS, CONGENITAL	1
SYPHILIS, LATENT	1
VRE	1
Total	52

Preventive Medicine Department
US Naval Hospital Guam

**PNEUMONIA CASES SEEN IN GUAM MILITARY TREATMENT
FACILITIES
BY WEEK REPORTED, 2006**



DENGUE FEVER

Serological testing of the 2 year-old male resident of Guam reported as a suspect dengue case last week has confirmed the diagnosis (Dengue Eliza Ab IgM 13.51). Inspection of the patient's residence and immediate surroundings was conducted after the initial report and dengue educational material was distributed in the neighborhood.

PERTUSSIS

As of October 17, 2006, the number of confirmed pertussis cases remains at 7. No new suspect cases have been reported for the past 2 weeks.

CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE

C. difficile has supplanted MRSA as a cause of hospital-acquired illness in Wales, United Kingdom, where more than 2,500 patients became infected in 2005 resulting in the closure of some hospital wards. The bacterium, which may be carried in the intestinal tracts of as many as 3% of the general population, becomes a particular problem when elderly or debilitated patients are infected. Recent statistics show that for every 1,000 patients over the age of 65 admitted to Welch hospitals, 15 developed *C. difficile* infections. (Western Mail and Echo, Ltd., UK) GMHA statistics are under review for comparative purposes.

At a recent medical conference, doctors from the CDC, Atlanta, and several U.S. university hospitals have reported observing increased numbers of *C. difficile* infections among pregnant women. These infections were believed to have been contracted outside of hospitals and may be associated with the use of antibiotics and/or antacids. (AP)

In 2005 13 *C. difficile* infections were reported on Guam; 6 were in patients 65 years of age or older. Through the month of September, 2006, 30 of these infections had been reported, 17 of whom were age 65 or older. Of the 17, 7 were judged to be community - acquired, 12 hospital-acquired, and 18 undetermined. Some of the increase in cases observed is undoubtedly due to increased awareness of the problem on the part of local physicians.