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Table 18–8. Comparison of important features of *Salmonella* and *Shigella*.

Feature	<i>Shigella</i>	<i>Salmonella</i> except <i>S typhi</i>	<i>Salmonella</i> <i>typhi</i>
Reservoir	Humans	Animals, especially poultry, and eggs	Humans
Infectious dose	Low	High	High
Diarrhea as a prominent feature	Yes	Yes	No
Invasion of bloodstream	No	Yes	Yes
Chronic carrier state	No	Infrequent	Yes
Lactose fermentation	No	No	No
H ₂ S production	No	Yes	Yes
Vaccine available	No	No	Yes

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Table 16–5. Clinical diseases induced by salmonellae.

	Enteric Fevers	Septicemias	Enterocolitis
Incubation period	7–20 days	Variable	8–48 hours
Onset	Insidious	Abrupt	Abrupt
Fever	Gradual, then high plateau, with "typhoidal" state	Rapid rise, then spiking "septic" temperature	Usually low
Duration of disease	Several weeks	Variable	2–5 days
Gastrointestinal symptoms	Often early constipation; later, bloody diarrhea	Often none	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea at onset
Blood cultures	Positive in 1st–2nd weeks of disease	Positive during high fever	Negative
Stool cultures	Positive from 2nd week on; negative earlier in disease	Infrequently positive	Positive soon after onset

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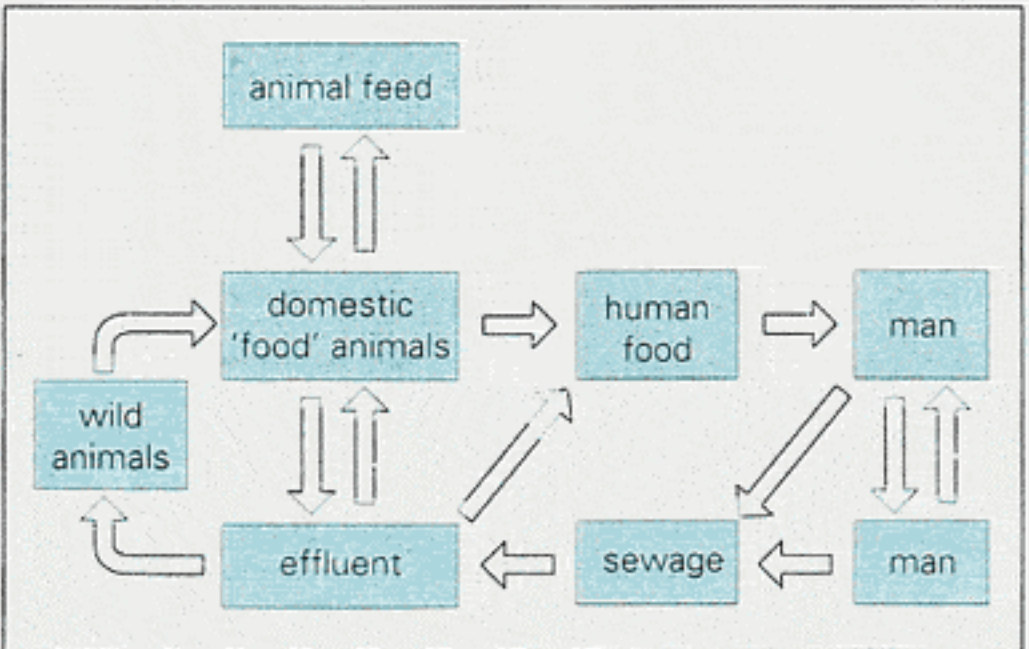
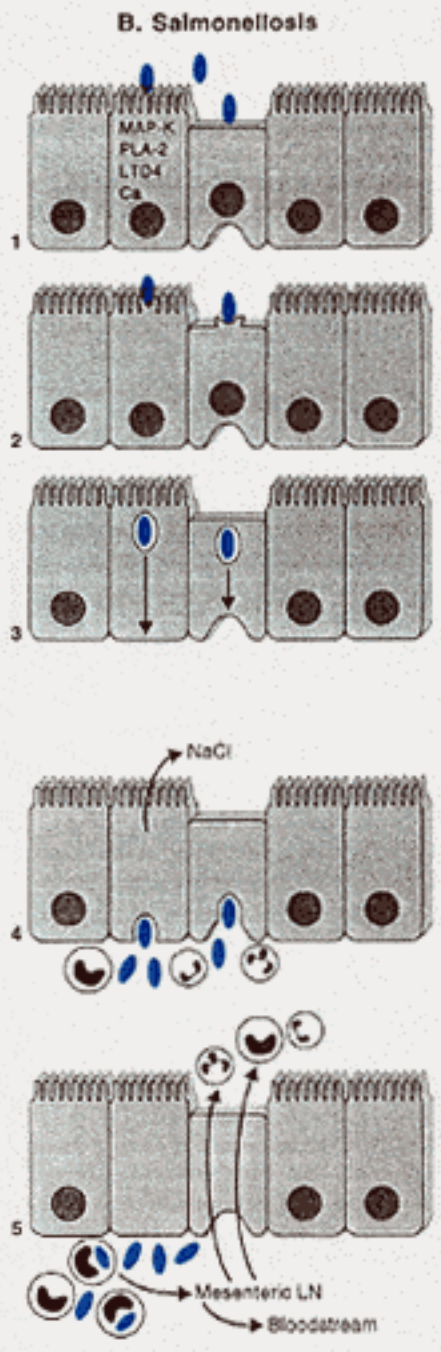
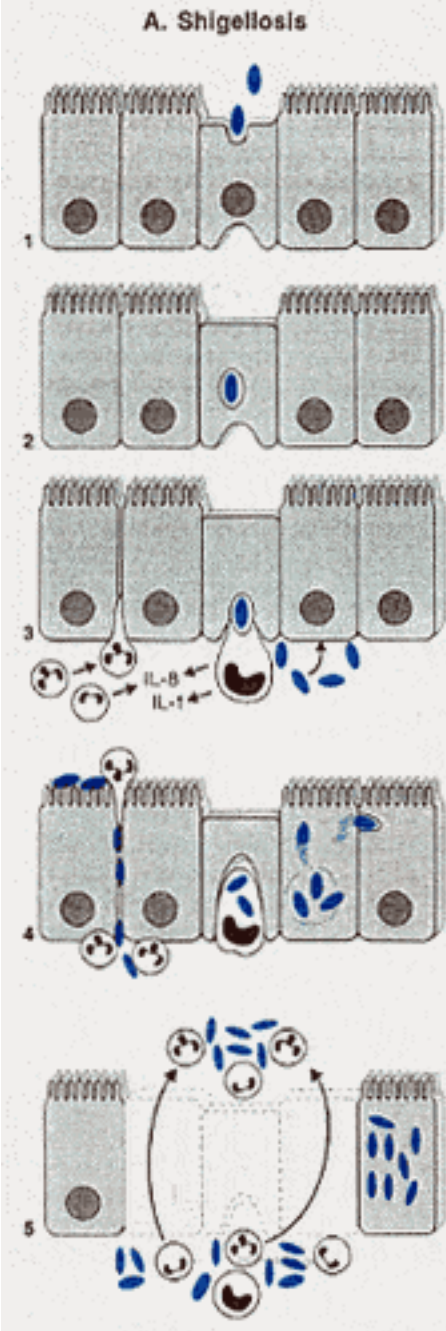
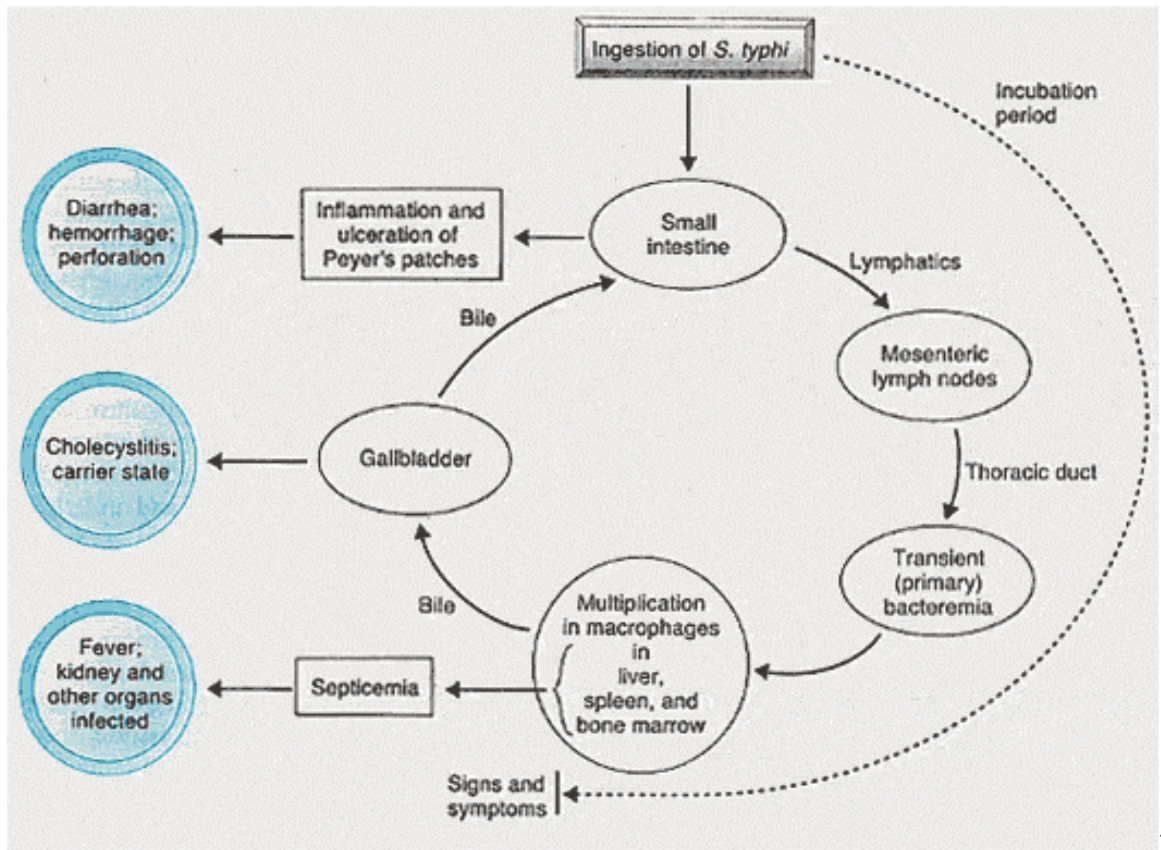


Fig. 20.10 The recycling of salmonellae. With the exception of *Salmonella typhi*, salmonellae are widely distributed in animals, providing a constant source of infection for man. Excretion of large numbers of salmonellae from infected individuals and carriers allows the organisms to be 'recycled'.





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