ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my sense of gratitude to Prof. B. K. Aikat, Director, Department of Pathology, Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh for his valuable suggestions, continued guidance and helpful criticisms.

I am extremely grateful to Prof. K. C. Basu Mallick, Director-Professor, Department of Pathology & Bacteriology, Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education & Research, Calcutta for his kind help and suggestions.

I would like to acknowledge the continued interests of Dr. K. P. Sengupta, Reader, Department of Pathology & Bacteriology, Dr. P. L. Banerjee, Officer-in-charge, Division of Bacteriology and Dr. A.N. Chakraborty, Officer-in-charge, Division of Immunology of this Department shown throughout the period of this study and the help rendered by a number of other colleagues in this Department.

I am grateful to Mr. A. Mukherjee, Department of Vital Statistics, All India Institute of Public Health & Hygiene, Calcutta for helping me with the statistical analysis of the data.

I am indebted to Dr. B. D. Chatterjee, Demonstrator, Department of Pathology & Bacteriology of this Hospital for his helpful suggestions regarding the phage typing.

I wish particularly to thank technicians, Mr. B. K. Chandra and Mr. S. Das for providing me with large batches of media which were used during these investigations.

For scrupulous and painstaking typing Mr. S. Chatterjee and for the photographs and diagrams Mr. S. Dutta deserve my grateful appreciation.

The phage typing was possible due to the generosity of the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, U.S.A. for supplying with all the phages along with the propagating strains.

I wish to record my gratitude to the Director, Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education & Research and the Surgeon Superintendent, Seth Sukhlal Karnani Memorial Hospital for providing me with all facilities for this study.