

The objective of the bulletin is to report new health events occurring outside and inside EpiSouth area that have potential implications on EpiSouth population. It does not aim to provide an exhaustive review of international alerts. Since 2006, The French public health Institute (InVS) is issuing an online epidemic intelligence bulletin (Bulletin hebdomadaire International - BHI). In order to limit duplication and to make this already verified information available to a larger audience, information relating to health events of interest for EpiSouth population are translated and integrated in the relevant e-web sections. Despite all verifications, WP6 team would not be responsible for potential errors. The recipient is responsible for the cautious use of this information. Neither the European Commission nor any person acting on behalf of the Commission is liable for the use that may be made of the information contained in this report. Data maps and commentary used in this document do not imply any opinion of EpiSouth countries or its partners on the legal status of the countries and territories shown or concerning their borders.

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- **“INSIDE” events:**
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- **“OUTSIDE” events: none**

Location: World

Event: A(H5N1) – Epizootic & Human

Comments

No new human cases and no new epizootic reported this week

### ***REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING INSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA (Occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)***

Location: Turkey

Event: West Nile

Comments

- The Refik Saydam National Public Health Agency confirmed the occurrence of 3 human cases of West Nile fever in Turkey.
  - These cases were identified during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks of August 2011.
  - The cases were from Sakarya, Mugla and Antalya provinces, all located in the western part of the country.
  - One of the cases presented severe neuroinvasive manifestation and was treated in a university hospital.
- The cases were defined as probable due to their serological positivity (ELISA and IFAT) with seroconversion follow-up.
- The tests were performed by the national reference laboratory, Refik Saydam National Public Health Agency.
- These cases are the first 3 West Nile fever (WNF) cases of 2011.
- In 2010, a total of 47 WNF cases (12 confirmed with neutralization test) were identified and notified for the first time in Turkey (cf. [eWEB n° 129](#)).

**Map 1. Antalya, Mugla and Sakarya provinces, Turkey.**



- Since July 2011, active surveillance is conveyed in Sakarya, Mugla, Manisa and Edirne provinces.
- Field epidemiological investigations are still underway in Sakarya, Mugla, Manisa and Edirne provinces and the most common type of vector is *Culex pipiens* in these provinces.

- On 31<sup>st</sup> August, the [EuroTravNet](#) network reported an outbreak of Opisthorchiasis in Central Italy after the consumption of marinated tench fillets.
- The cases are 2 tourists from The Netherlands who spent holidays near the Bolsena Lake.
- The Italian health authorities were alerted and diagnosed 20 Opisthorchiasis cases. All infected persons acquired the infection in a restaurant of the Gradoli village (near the Bolsena Lake), approximately between the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 2011.
- According to EuroTravNet, the disease is compatible with an acute *O. felineus* infection. *Opisthorchiasis Felineus* is a trematode parasite that infects the liver in mammals.
- Human cases of *Opisthorchiasis* may affect the liver, pancreas, and gall bladder. If not treated in the early stages, *Opisthorchiasis* may cause cirrhosis of the liver and increased risk of liver cancer, but may be asymptomatic in children.
- The infection can be prevented by properly cooking or freezing the fish before consumption.
- In [2007](#), 2 outbreaks of *Opisthorchis felineus* infection caused by the consumption of tench filets (*Tinca tinca*) were reported from a lake in Italy, with a total of 22 infected persons.

Map 2. Bolsena Lake, Italy.



- This outbreak occurred during the summer touristic peak in a touristic location.
- Thus, it is not excluded that some tourists might develop symptoms once back in their countries of origin.
- Opisthorchiasis should therefore be suspected in persons who spent one or more days near the Bolsena Lake (Central Italy) in July and consumed marinated freshwater fish, and who developed one or several of the following symptoms: eosinophilia fever, abdominal pain, headache, asthenia, arthralgia, diarrhea, nausea.

- On 6<sup>th</sup> September, the Institut de Veille Sanitaire reported two foodborne outbreaks of *Clostridium botulinum*, identified on September 3 and 5, 2011.
- The first outbreak of 5 adults cases took place in the administrative district of Vaucluse in southern France:
  - The 5 cases occurred after a meal taken on 1<sup>st</sup> September. They had symptom onset on September 2 and 3 (all developed respiratory failure).
  - Botulinum toxin type A has been identified in the serum of 4 of the 5 patients by the National Reference Centre (NRC) for botulism at the Pasteur Institute.
- The second outbreak of 3 adults occurred in the administrative district of Somme in northern France:
  - The cases had symptom onset on September 4 and 5 after a meal that took place on September 3. Two of them developed respiratory failure,
  - Patient's samples are analysed by the NRC.
- A common food has been identified in both outbreaks. It is a tapenade (food product based on ground olives) with almonds. A common producer and batch number has been identified.
- The product was distributed under three names « **Les délices de Marie-Claire** », « **Terre de Mistral** » and « **Les secrets d'Anaïs** ». The batch number implicated in both outbreaks is 112005.

Map 3. Vaucluse and Somme districts, France



- The producer is an artisan producer in the Vaucluse in southern France who distributes his products locally in 4 French administrative districts in southern France (Bouches-du-Rhône, Drome, Var et Vaucluse).
- The French authorities have issued a national recall of all products produced by the implicated producer and have stopped production at the site.
- Considering that the region is a highly touristic, for both French and international tourists, European alerts are being issued. A RASFF will be issued by France.