INDEX e-WEB n°234

- A(H5N1) Avian & Human influenza – None
- “INSIDE” events: Dengue - Greece
- “OUTSIDE” events: none

REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING INSIDE THE EPI SOUTH AREA
(Occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)

Location: Greece  Event: Dengue  Comments

- On 3rd September 2012, the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (HCDCP) reported one probable case of dengue in the municipality of Agrinio, located in the Aetolia-Acarnania regional unit of Western Greece (cf. map 1).
- The case was:
  - An 84 years old person;
  - With underlying conditions;
  - With no travel history to other countries.
  - The person died on 30th August 2012 from a septic choc.
- On 5th September 2012, laboratory testing showed strongly positive IgM for dengue and Ag NS1 positive, but the PCR and IgG were negative, and IgM for West Nile virus were weakly positive. Laboratory tests are ongoing to verify the results.
- Entomological investigation is in process, and Greek authorities took measures to increase awareness of local health professionals and the public and provide information on personal protective measures against mosquito bites.
- This is the first probable dengue case reported in Greece since the 1920's.
- So far, no other probable or suspect case has been detected in the vicinity of the probable case.
- During the years 1927 and 1928, Greece was confronted to a large outbreak of dengue, mainly in Athens area. It was the most recent and serious outbreak reported in Europe.
- Sporadic cases of dengue were reported in the past in other EpiSouth countries such as Croatia (cf. eWEB n° 133), France (cf. eWEB n° 131) and Egypt (cf. eWEB n°116).
- The presence of Aedes vector in EpiSouth countries constitutes a factor in favour of occurrence of sporadic cases in these countries in the future.
- Nevertheless, to date, the risk of development of a local transmission cycle of dengue in the Mediterranean area seems limited.

Map 1. Agrinio municipality, Aetolia-Acarnania regional unit, Greece