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 - BII), 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.

The EpiSouth-Plus Project is cofunded by the European Union DG-SANCO/EAHC and EuropeAid together with the participating national partner Institutions. The financial support of the Italian Ministry of Health and ECDC is also acknowledged. Yet, the contents of this bulletin can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

INDEX e-WEB n°235

- A(H5N1) Avian & Human influenza – None
- “INSIDE” events: West Nile – Croatia, Kosovo, Tunisia, Italy
- “OUTSIDE” events: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location: World</th>
<th>Event: A(H5N1) – Epizootic &amp; Human</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No new event has been reported this week

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location: EpiSouth countries</th>
<th>Event: West Nile</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CROATIA

- On 17th September 2012, 5 probable West Nile cases in humans were reported by the Croatian National Institute of Public Health in the East of the country (cf. map 1):
  - 4 autochthonous WNV cases:
    - 1 was in Slavonski Brod;
    - and 3 were in Osijek-Baranja and Vukovar-Syrmia, at the border with Serbia.
  - 1 imported WNV case from Serbia in Slavonski Brod.
- Seroneutralisation tests are on process.

Map 1. Areas where WNV cases were reported in Croatia, in 2012

- It is the first time that WNV cases have been reported in humans in Croatia.
- In July and August 2012, WNV cases have been reported in horses, in Vukovar-Syrmia region (cf. eWEB n° 231).
- In 2011, a low intensity of WNV was found in horses through sera testing. A higher intensity of WNV was found through seroprevalence surveys in horses in the Eastern and continental parts of the country (cf. eWEB n° 231 & 232).
- End of August 2012, Serbia also reported West Nile human cases in the country for the first time (cf. eWEB n° 232).
KOSOVO

- On 19th September 2012, one confirmed WNV case and 2 suspect cases were reported by the National Institute of Public Health of Kosovo in the country (cf. map 2).

Map 2. Kosovo

- It is the first time that human WNV cases were reported in Kosovo. No equine WNV case has ever been reported either in the country.

- Considering that WNV is circulating in several Balkan countries neighbouring Kosovo since 2010, the occurrence of WNV human cases in Kosovo was not unexpected.

- A permanent passive human WNV surveillance system is implemented in Kosovo.

TUNISIA

- On 18th September 2012, the Tunisian ministry of health reported to EpiSouth 3 additional confirmed West Nile virus cases in humans:
  - 2 women age 29 and 33 years old from North of Kebili city (Rabra and Tombar, cf. map 3) were hospitalized end of August 2012 for fever, severe headache and vomiting.
  - An 80 years old male farmer from Zeramine, Monastir governorate (cf. map 3), was hospitalized on 1st September 2012 with a meningoencephalitis.

- The Pasteur Institute in Tunis confirmed that these 3 cases were infected with WNV.

- Samples of sporadic suspect cases in Gabes area have been tested: 2 cases were negative while 6 other cases are still under investigation.

- The last WNV human case in Tunisia was reported on August 2012 in Ksar Helal, Monastir governorate (cf. eWEB n°230).

- To date, in Tunisia, a total of 4 WNV human cases were reported.

- Since 2010, Tunisia is reporting West Nile virus cases (cf. Note on 2010 & 2011 seasons WNV circulation in EpiSouth countries):
  - 3 cases were reported in 2010 (Jendouba and Tataouine)
  - 3 cases were reported in 2011 (Kebili, cf. eWEB n°189)
  - 4 cases were reported in 2012 (Kebili and Monastir governorates)

Map 3. Monastir governorate and Kebili city, Tunisia
**ITALY**

- On 13th September 2012, the [National Centre for Epidemiology, Surveillance and Health Promotion](#) reported 1 confirmed case of WNV in Treviso province, and 2 in Venice province (Veneto region, cf. map 4).

![Map 4. Veneto region, Italy](image)

- On 15th July 2012, the first blood donation positive for WNV was reported in Italy (cf. eWEB n° 229).

- Veneto region was already affected by WNV in 2010 and 2011.

- In 2010 and 2011 respectively, 3 an 14 WNV human cases were reported in Italy.

- To date, within EpiSouth countries, 9 countries reported WNV cases: Croatia, Greece, Israel, Italy, Kosovo, Palestine, Romania, Serbia, and Tunisia.

- For Serbia, Croatia and Kosovo, it is the first time that WNV has been reported in humans.