INDEX e-WEB n°243

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

Location: World
Event: A(H5N1) – Human & Epizootic
Comments

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)

Location: EpiSouth countries
Event: West Nile
Comments

CROATIA
- On 8 November 2012, the Ministry of Agriculture in Croatia reported to OIE 6 outbreaks of West Nile virus in equine in 2 counties located on the East:
  - 1 outbreak in Brod Posavina county
  - 5 outbreaks in Virovitica-Podravina county
- On 22 August 2012, 2 outbreaks of WNV in equine were reported in Vukovar-Syrmia county (East of the country, cf. eWEB n° 231).
- On 17 September 2012, 5 probable West Nile cases in humans were reported by the Croatian National Institute of Public Health. They were all located in the East of the country (cf. eWEB n°235).

ITALY
- On 31 October 2012, the Italian Institute of Public Health reported a total of 28 confirmed human cases of WNV in the country, including one in Matera region, Basilicata province.
- The case had onset of symptoms on 23 September 2012.
- To date, 4 provinces reported WNV cases in humans in 2012: Venetia, Sardinia, Friuli-Venetia-Giulia and Basilicata.

- It is the first year that Croatia is reporting WNV cases in humans and equine.
- 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. Note on 2010 & 2011 seasons WNV circulation in EpiSouth countries).
- It is the first time that a WNV case in human was reported in Basilicata province.
- In 2011, equine cases were reported in Basilicata province, with no human cases.
**TUNISIA**
- On 14 November 2012, the Tunisian health authorities reported to EpiSouth a total of 63 WNV human cases including 10 deaths in 9 different governorates: Gabes, Kebili, Monastir, Mahdia, Bizerte, Jendouba, Sousse, Tozeur, Sfax.
- As of 30 October 2012, a total of 33 cases including 3 deaths were reported in the country (cf. eWEB n° 241).

**MONTENEGRO**
- On 14 November 2012, the Public Health Institute in Montenegro reported to EpiSouth the first human case of WNV ever reported in Montenegro.
- The case was diagnosed on 31 October 2012 by the Reference Laboratory of the Public Health Institute in Montenegro.
- The case is:
  - An 18 years old woman from Montenegro;
  - With onset of symptoms on 14 October 2012 (mild meningitis);
  - The case lives in Podgorica (the capital city) and had a travel history in Ulcinj area (on the coast) during the incubation period. Therefore, according to the Public Health Institute in Montenegro these two localities can be considered as a potential place of infection.
  - IgM and IgG for WNV were confirmed through ELISA test at the Reference Laboratory of the Public Health Institute in Montenegro.

- This year, the dynamic of the WNV outbreak in Tunisia is much stronger than in the previous years where only sporadic cases were reported (cf. Note on 2010 & 2011 seasons WNV circulation in EpiSouth countries).
- It is the first time that WNV circulation is reported in Montenegro.
- So far, there was no WNV surveillance system in Montenegro (cf. Note on 2010 & 2011 seasons WNV circulation in EpiSouth countries).

In 2012, WNV surveillance became mandatory in Montenegro.

This year, Balkan countries such as Croatia, Serbia, Kosovo, and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia reported WNV cases.

For Croatia, Kosovo and Serbia, it is the first year that WNV infections in humans were reported.

- To date, for the 2012 season, a total of 381 WNV infections (clinical and confirm cases) in humans have been reported in 12 EpiSouth countries (cf. map):
  - Algeria (1)
  - Croatia (5)
  - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (6)
  - Greece (109 confirmed WNND cases)
  - Israel (61)
  - Italy (50)
  - Kosovo (4)
  - Montenegro (1)
  - Palestine (2)
  - Romania (14)
  - Serbia (64)
  - Tunisia (63)

- In 2010, 485 human WNV infections were reported in 9 countries, while in 2011 232 WNV human infections were reported in 8 countries.
2012 Season, WNV circulation in Episouth area and in neighbouring countries*, as of 14/11/2012

**Human cases in 2012**
- 1 point = 1 case

**Equine cases in 2012**
- No equine cases reported
- Equine cases reported

**Viral circulation**
- No WNV clinical human infection reported in the past 3 years
- WNV circulation reported in in the last 3 years
- Seroprevalence study documenting WNV circulation***
- Non Episouth / no information

* Russia, Hungary, Ukraine
** Cases are randomly located by administrative units or by countries (for Albania, Israel, FYR-Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia)
*** Greece: only neuro invasive cases represented, source KEELPMO
****Studies not older than 2005, in countries which have not reported equine or human confirmed cases

Sources OIE, MoH, MoA, EpiSouth / map DI-InVS/ esri basemap