The 4th EURASIA CONGRESS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

01-05 JUNE 2011

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“Clinical Microbiology, Infectious Diseases, Immunology and Epidemiology”

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Association with:

Collaboration with:
Early Warning and Epidemic Intelligence in the Mediterranean regions and Balkans countries


for the EpiSouth network

International Departent, Institut de Veille Sanitaire (InVS), France
EURASIA congress, 2 June 2011, Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina.
• Intense circulation of goods and people \(\rightarrow\) communicable diseases know no borders

• Capacity to identify risk emerging internationally

• International surveillance not sufficient \(\rightarrow\) pro-active approach

- Identification of health events with potential risk for EpiSouth countries and their populations
- Early warning communication
### EpiSouth cross-border EI

| Surveillance and notification of events **INSIDE** Episouth region |

### International EI

| Surveillance and notification of events **OUTSIDE** Episouth region |
The objective is not...
The goal is to...
• Detection of potential health threats through the use of formal & informal sources (eg. Media)
• Not all countries have expertise nor resources to develop full-fledged EI
• High level for potential duplication
• Process
  – Identification of primary signals via dedicated Expert system
  – Detection and selection of relevant signals
  – Analysis
  – **Validation**
  – Communication
• Tailored to EpiSouth needs
• Outputs :
  – EpiSouth Weekly epidemiological Bulletin e-Web Since March 09 (> 167 bulletins)
  – Thematic notes issued on ad hoc basis on various topic (CCHF, West nile, A/H1N1, AlKurma virus)
  – All available online in the EpiSouth site [http://www.episouth.org](http://www.episouth.org)
- Mediterranean Alert Early warning system
- Secured web site (confidential)
- To share national alerts
- Operational since November 09
- Accessible to
  - EpiSouth FP
    - NPHI, MoH
  - Majors Stakeholders
    - WHO
    - ECDC, EU commission
- Complements existing systems
  - WHO
  - E.U. / ECDC
West Nile virus circulation in the EpiSouth countries
The progressive expansion of the Novel A(H1N1)v epidemic in the EpiSouth region
(Mediterranean and Balkans)
• **Source of data:** EpiSouth countries

• **Data collected:**
  – Confirmed cases
  – Case definition and case management strategies
  – Deaths / severe cases
  – Community transmission: circulation intensity
  – Imported vs local cases

• **Descriptive analysis on a weekly basis**

• **Information shared with the network:**
  – Daily bulletin (the first 2 months);
  – Twice a week (intermediate period)
  – Weekly bulletin (until the end)
Chronological A(H1N1) evolution (detected cases reported)

11 May 2009

08 June 2009

31 May 2009

13 July 2009
Cumulative A(H1N1)2009 confirmed cases, EpiSouth sub-regions, as of 28 July (week 31).
Episouth Network
Added Values

Global crises = Global response

- It raised awareness on regional and cross-border issues
- Created trust, cohesion and concrete collaboration among PH officers of 27 countries
- Fills a gap in a region where countries belong to different political/supranational entities that is not addressed, as a whole, neither by the European Commission nor by WHO

- In case of major threats, pooling internationally available capacities will strengthen health security

Key role for regional networks
Acknowledgements

All EpiSouth Participating countries

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The contents of this presentation are the sole responsibility of the authors and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.
Thank you for your attention..

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http://www.episouth.org/index.html