

This weekly bulletin provides updates on threats monitored by ECDC.

I. Executive summary

EU Threats

Salmonella Stanley - Multistate(EU) - 2012 outbreak

Opening date: 19 July 2012

Latest update: 20 August 2012

On 9 July, Belgium reported an outbreak of *Salmonella enterica* serovar Stanley (*S. Stanley*) through the EPIS-FWD platform. Subsequently, Austria, Czech Republic, Germany and Hungary reported cases of *S. Stanley* sharing the same PFGE pattern as the Belgian outbreak strain. The descriptive epidemiology indicates a transmission originating from a persistent common source or multiple sources in the EU that are contaminated with indistinguishable isolates by molecular typing.

Food and veterinary investigations are ongoing in Member States and at EU level to identify the source of the outbreak.

→Update of the week

From 1 August 2011 to 5 September 2012, EU Member States have reported 375 cases of *S. Stanley* on the Epidemic Intelligence Information System (EPIS), 144 of which confirmed as nalidixic acid resistant and with an indistinguishable XbaI-PFGE pattern. The number of cases rose progressively and continuously each month from April to August 2012.

Malaria - Greece - 2012

Opening date: 31 May 2012

Latest update: 7 September 2012

Since June 2012, eight autochthonous cases of malaria, caused by *Plasmodium vivax* infection, have been reported from Greece. Local control measures have been implemented in accordance with national guidelines.

→Update of the week

Two additional autochthonous cases were reported since the last update.

Olympics and Paralympics 2012 - MG surveillance (weekly update)

Opening date: 13 July 2012

From 20 July 2012, the CDTR includes a section on health events assessed for relevance to the EU in consideration of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. It contains information gathered through ECDC epidemic intelligence activities. The Centre is working with the Health Protection Agency in the UK to monitor and assess international public health threats for potential impact on the Games.

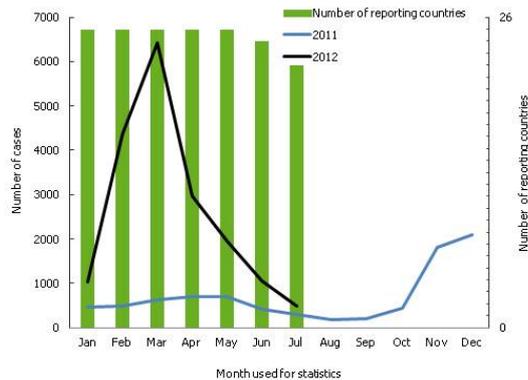
The information in this section is grouped geographically by UK (as host country), Europe and rest of the world.

→Update of the week

There are two outbreaks of Ebola haemorrhagic fever in Africa currently being monitored; an outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) involving 28 cases (including 14 deaths), and a separate outbreak in Uganda involving 24 cases (including 17 deaths). These outbreaks are unlikely to pose a threat in the context of the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

Number of rubella cases in 2011 and 2012 and number of countries reporting in 2012, by month

ECDC - preliminary figures



West Nile virus - Multistate (Europe) - Monitoring season 2012

Opening date: 21 June 2012

Latest update: 6 September 2012

Epidemiological summary

This season, as of 6 September 2012, 136 probable and confirmed human cases of West Nile fever (WNF) have been reported in the EU and 311 cases in neighbouring countries.

EU Member States

Greece

Between 7 July and 4 September, Greece reported 118 autochthonous (40 confirmed, 78 probable) WNF cases, in twelve former prefectures. Lefkada prefecture is newly affected this week. [One case](#) involves an immuno-compromised patient infected through blood transfusion. A WNV strain of lineage 2, similar to the strain of 2010, has been found in mosquitoes.

Hungary

On 6 September, Hungary reported the first two confirmed cases of WNF this year, in Hajdú-Bihar and Csongrád counties.

Italy

On 31 August, Italy reported the first three cases of WN neuroinvasive disease this year. Previously, Italy had notified an asymptomatic case of West Nile virus (WNV) infection in a resident of Venezia province, identified by systematic screening of blood donors in previously affected provinces in the Veneto region. RNA of WNV lineage 1A was detected in this case. So far this year, affected areas are: Venezia province (three confirmed cases) and Treviso province (one confirmed case). Treviso province is newly affected this week.

Romania

As of 5 September, Romania has reported twelve WNF cases (11 confirmed, one probable) this year. Bucharest municipality and five districts have been affected so far. Iasi district is newly affected this week.

Neighbouring countries

Serbia

This week, Serbian health authorities communicated a total of 18 probable and confirmed WNF cases in Serbia. Previously, ECDC

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had excluded three of the Serbian cases, due to a recent travel history to Greece (for one case), and laboratory results not being consistent with recent infections (for two cases). Therefore, ECDC considers the presence of 15 cases in Serbia. Grad Beograd (Belgrade city, one probable case) and Juzno-Banatski district (one confirmed and two probable cases) are affected areas; the location of 11 other cases is unknown.

Russia

As of 5 September, federal and regional health authorities have reported 278 cases of WNF in Russia in 10 federal subjects. [Belgorodskaya](#) and [Saratovskaya](#) oblasts are newly affected this week.

Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory

As of 14 August, [Israel](#) has reported 17 cases (seven confirmed, 10 probable) of WNF. This includes two cases in the occupied Palestinian territory, of which one was previously also reported by the [Palestinian Authority through EpiSouth](#). Five districts in Israel and two governorates in the West Bank are affected. No new cases have been reported this week.

Tunisia

On 16 August, [EpiSouth](#) reported the first case of WNF in Tunisia this year, in Moknine municipality, in Monastir governorate. No new cases have been reported this week.

Websources: [ECDC West Nile fever risk maps](#) | [ECDC Rapid Risk Assessment \(13 July\)](#) | [MedISys West Nile Disease](#) | [ECDC summary of the transmission season 2011](#) | [Official Journal of the EU - Notifiable Diseases](#) | [European Commission Case Definitions](#) | [EU Blood Directive](#)

ECDC assessment

West Nile fever in humans is a notifiable disease in the EU. The implementation of control measures by the national health authorities are considered important for ensuring blood safety when human cases of West Nile fever occur. In accordance with the EU Blood Directive, efforts should be made to defer blood donations from affected areas that have ongoing virus transmission.

Actions

On 13 July, ECDC updated its [Rapid Risk Assessment](#) concerning the epidemiological situation of West Nile virus infection in the European Union. ECDC produces weekly [West Nile fever risk maps](#) to inform blood safety authorities regarding affected areas.

New! Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome outbreak - US - Yosemite Park outbreak

Opening date: 3 September 2012

Epidemiological summary

The [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and the [Yosemite Park authorities](#) have reported an outbreak of Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) among visitors to Yosemite National Park, California. As of 7 September 2012, eight cases have been confirmed since June 10, including three fatalities; the five remaining individuals are recovering. All cases were among U.S. citizens, seven of them have been linked to a specific area of Curry Village in Yosemite Valley while the eighth case stayed in a different area of the park. The Curry Village tents were disinfected and visitors moved on 24 August.

The US CDC has informed ECDC that 591 individuals from 17 Member States and French Polynesia had reservations in the affected accommodation between 10 June and 25 August 2012 for a total of 1 923 people in booked groups from the EU. It is likely that most of the people who stayed in the tent cabins were EU citizens but this information is unknown at present.

As of 7 September 2012, no HPS case linked to Yosemite Park has been confirmed among EU citizens. However, the French National Institute for Public Health Surveillance (InVS) has reported an ongoing investigation into two potentially exposed cases in France.

A [US CDC health advisory](#) was published on 31 August 2012 for health care providers as well as a list of frequently asked questions. A park alert is currently in place at Yosemite and [park authorities](#) are updating the relevant information for visitors. The Californian Department of Public Health ([CDPH](#)) is regularly updating the epidemiological situation.

ECDC assessment

Several species of Hanta virus have been identified on the American continent but the Sin Nombre virus is responsible for most cases of HPS. Sin Nombre virus was first described in 1993 during a large outbreak HPS in the US and 602 laboratory confirmed

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