

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 - BHI). 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.

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- **A(H5N1) Human and avian influenza – None**
- **“INSIDE” Events:**
 - **West Nile – Italy, Portugal and Greece**
- **“OUTSIDE” Events:**
 - **Cholera – Haiti**

Location: World

Event: A(H5N1) – Human and Epizootic

Comments

**No human cases reported this week.
No influenza A(H5N1) epizootic reported this week .**

REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING INSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA (not occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)

Location: Italy, Greece, Portugal

Event: West Nile

Comments

Italy

- On 26th October 2010, Italian health authorities reported a new confirmed human case of West Nile virus infection:
 - A 41 years-old male resident in Veneto.
 - He presented neuro-invasive forms and was hospitalized on 30th August 2010.
 - The case was confirmed by the national reference laboratory.
 - Other suspect cases are under investigation.
- To date, regarding West Nile outbreaks in animals, health authorities reported
 - 51 clusters in horses in the provinces of Trapani, Venice, Treviso, Campobasso and Bologna.
 - 8 positive sentinel chickens in a farm in the province of Campobasso.
- Blood donations have been suspended in 8 Italian cities (in three Italian Regions) for 28 days: Mantova, Ferrara, Rovigo, Modena, Bologna, Reggio Emilia, Venice and Vicenza..

Greece

- On 22 October 2010, Greek health authorities reported 2 new equine West Nile outbreaks, located both in Thessalia (cf. map 1).
- To date, a total of 9 WN equine outbreaks were reported to [OIE](#) including 11 horses.

Portugal

- On 27th October 2010, the ministry of agriculture of Portugal reported to the OIE a West Nile equine outbreak (1 horse) in Palmela village located in the Setubal district, in the Lisboa region (cf. map 2).

Map 1. Thessalia, Greece.



Map 2. Setubal, Lisboa region, Portugal



REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING OUTSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA
(NOT occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)

Location: Haiti Event: Cholera

Comments

- Since October 12, 2010, a cholera outbreak affects Haiti.
- From October 12th to 26th, 2010, the ministry of health of Haiti and the PAHO WHO office reported:
 - ✓ 3,769 hospitalized cases including 284 deaths,
 - ✓ The *Vibrio cholerae* O1 strain has been isolated.
 - ✓ The most affected areas are the Central and Artibonite departments (cf. map 3)
 - ✓ The epidemic seems to have reached the Central Plateau (8 deaths by 22/10/10)
 - ✓ Cases originating from affected departments have been reported in Port-au-Prince.
- Initially, the reported Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was 14%. The current reported CFR is around 8%. Considering that with adequate case management and conditions, the CFR is expected to be below 1%, this reported CFR remains very high.

- This is the 1st cholera epidemic in Haiti described the past fifty years. Haiti has been spared during the large epidemics that affected South America in 1990's.
- An earthquake struck Haiti on January 12, 2010, causing approximately 230,000 deaths and affecting about 3 million people. Artibonite area was not affected by the earthquake but hosts a large number of displaced persons.
- There are approximately 2.3 million IDPs in Haiti, including 1.6 millions in 1300 camps. The population of Port-au-Prince is estimated at about 2 millions inhabitants.
- On 16 October 2010, torrential rains caused floods and landslides in the towns of Leogane, Carrefour and Port-au-Prince, causing 12 deaths and affecting over 4,000 families.
- Given the humanitarian crisis (earthquake, floods, displaced people ...), the national situation is worrying.
- There is current no documented circulation of cholera in the Americas and the Caribbean. To date, the source of introduction of *Vibrio cholerae* in Haiti is not known.
- Except the Dominican Republic, the risk of international spread is very limited.

Map 3. Cholera cases in Haiti, as of 26th October 2010. Source: [PAHO](#).

Figure 1. Number of new cases and deaths due to cholera in Haiti, 12-26 October 2010. (Source: Haiti MoH)

