

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.

INDEX e-WEB n°138

- **A(H5N1) Human and avian influenza – None**
- **“INSIDE” Events:**
 - **West Nile – Italy, Bulgaria and Greece**
- **“OUTSIDE” Events:**
 - **Poliomyelitis- Congo**

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: Bulgaria, Italy, and Greece

Event: West Nile

Comments

Bulgaria

- On 3d of November, ministry of agriculture of Bulgaria reported to the OIE a West Nile equine outbreak (3 horses) in the village of Staro Oriahovo, located in Dolni Chiflik, in the Varna oblast (North-East part of Bulgaria)(cf. map 1).
- Last outbreak was reported in October 2010 in Dobrich, first equine cases ever reported to OIE by Bulgaria (cf. [Eweb n°133](#)).

Italy

- On 4 November 2010, Italian health authorities reported new foci of West Nile virus infection in province of Compobasso, in Molise region (2 horses):
- To date, regarding West Nile outbreaks in animals, health authorities reported:
 - 53 clusters in horses in the provinces of Trapani, Venice, Treviso, Campobasso, and Bologna.

Greece

- As of 12 November 2010, 261 human cases and 34 deaths have been reported (Greek MoH, [Keel data](#)).
- Furthermore, on 4 November 2010, Greek health authorities reported 2 new equine West Nile outbreaks, located in Central Macedonia.

Map 1: Varna, Bulgaria



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

Location: Congo **Event:** Poliomyelitis

Comments

- On 3 November 2010, Health authorities of the Republic of Congo have reported 120 suspected cases of poliomyelitis (acute flaccid paralysis) including 58 deaths.
- On November 9, 184 suspected cases including 85 deaths have been reported.
 - A wild poliovirus type 1 (WP1) has been isolated from four patients.
 - Almost all cases are reported in Pointe Noire, the economic capital of the country, in Kouilou region on the Atlantic coast. Other suspected cases were reported in southern regions (Niari, Bouenza Kouilou) and in Brazzaville, capital of the Congo (see Map 2).
- The first case occurred early October. Half of the cases were reported within 15 days.
- Most cases and deaths are young adults. Of 42 cases for which information is available:
 - 1 is less than 5 years;
 - 3 are between 7 and 13 years;
 - 33 are between 15 and 25;
 - 5 are between 26 and 58 years.
- As a response to this epidemic:
 - Surveillance of acute flaccid paralysis has been strengthened;
 - A vaccination campaign against polio is expected to begin November 12, 2010 in the regions of Kouilou and Cabinda, Angola border region. Other campaigns to cover the entire Congolese population are expected to begin November 18, 2010.

- The last case of indigenous polio in the country dates back to 2000.
- According to preliminary results of epidemiological investigations and virus typing, it seems that the virus strain comes from Angola.
- In regard to the large number of reported cases, the unusual age distribution of cases the speed of the epidemic spread, the situation should be monitored carefully. Pointe Noire, the second largest city, has substantial international trade with African and European cities. The exportation of cases is possible, especially in this unusual age group (young adults).

Map 2: Congo,

