

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°59

- A(H5N1) Human influenza – Hong-Kong
- “OUTSIDE” Events:
  - World – Novel influenza A(H1N1)
  - Madagascar: Plague
  - Tchad -- Meningitis
- “INSIDE” Events: None (other than A[H5N1] and A[H1N1])

Area:	Hong Kong, China	Event:	A(H5N1) – Human	<u>Comments</u>
-------	------------------	--------	-----------------	-----------------

**Map 1. situation of Tuen Mun district, Hong Kong, China**



- On May 5, 2009, Hong Kong veterinary authorities isolated influenza A(H5N1) virus in a dead pigeon found on April 27, 2009 in Tuen Mun district (see Map 1).
- The last avian influenza outbreak in Hong Kong was reported during the last trimester 2008.
- Early 2009, bird carcasses found in the sea drifting from continental China, were reported to be infected with avian virus A(H5N1).


- Available data do not substantiate a change in the assessment of the global epidemiological situation.

### **REPORT of NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURING OUTSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA (not occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)**

Area:	World	Event:	A(H1N1) Novel influenza	<u>Comments</u>
-------	-------	--------	-------------------------	-----------------

- Since April 24<sup>th</sup> 2009, Health authorities of several countries have reported human influenza cases due to a new strain, called [A\(H1N1\) Novel influenza virus](#), derived from a porcine strain.
- This virus is different from human A(H1N1) virus, which is responsible of seasonal influenza outbreaks and usually circulates widely in the world.
- A human-to-human transmission is confirmed.
- Table 1 summarises the Novel influenza situation as of May 7, 2009 at 11:00 AM.

- Each country has its own case definition. Moreover, within one country, the case definition may change overtime. These two elements have to be considered in the interpretation of the number of reported cases.
- [Updates](#) are uploaded every day on EpiSouth’s website, with new available elements.

Area: Madagascar	Event: Pneumonic plague	Comments
<p><b>Madagascar</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approximately 10 suspect cases (all dead) of pneumonic plague have been reported in Amparafaravola district, Madagascar (West Tamatave, see Map 2).</li> <li>None have been biologically confirmed.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pneumonic plague on Madagascar Island circulates on a seasonal pattern. Amparafaravola district is situated on the Island's highlands where cases are regularly reported.</li> <li>Plague is endemic on Madagascar Island (approx. 50 cases each year, including approx. 20 laboratory confirmed).</li> <li>The occurrence of pneumonic plague on Madagascar Island is not unexpected.</li> <li>Therefore, this information does not represent an alert.</li> </ul>
 <p>Map 2. Amparafaravola district, Madagascar</p>		

Area: Tchad	Event: Meningitis	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From January 1st to April 12, 2009, 56,212 meningitis cases (including 3,095 deaths, CFR 5.5%) have been reported in 11 countries of the 14 participating to the WHO meningitis sentinel network.</li> <li><i>N. Meningitidis A</i> is predominantly involved in this epidemic.</li> <li><a href="#">Nigeria</a> health authorities reported a decrease in the number of cases since EW 14 (29/03-05/04/2009), whereas in <a href="#">Niger</a> the number of cases reported remains high.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every year, from December to June (dry season), meningitis epidemics occur in countries located in the meningitis belt (from Senegal to Somalia, approximately 400 million people in 21 countries).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Chad</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Since March 16, 2009 to date, the number of meningitis suspect cases has increased : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ From January 1st to April 12, 2009, 1,023 cases including 114 deaths (CFR 11.1%) have been reported, including 109 during EW 15 (April 6 to 12, 2009).</li> <li>✓ On EW 15, one district reached the epidemic threshold (Eats N'Djamena) and 3 the alert threshold (Dourbali, Benoye and Goundi, see Map 3).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

**REPORT of NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING INSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA  
(Occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)**

**No events reported this week**

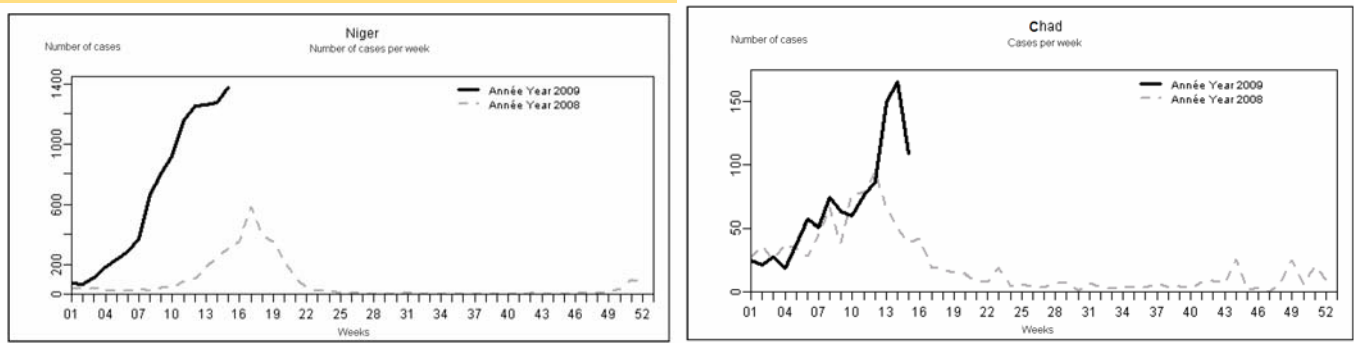
**Table 1. Confirmed cases of Novel A(H1N1) virus in the World as of May 7, 2009, 11:00 am**

Country	A(H1N1) confirmed cases		Secondary case linked to an imported case (CSI) Secondary case not linked to an imported case (CSSL)
	Total	Death	
Mexico	1112	42	Active community circulation
USA	938	2	Evidence for active community circulation (NYC, Texas, California, Illinois)
Canada	201	0	CSI (Ontario, New Scotland), 1 severe case (in stable condition)
Colombia	1	0	
Costa Rica	1	0	
Guatemala	1	0	
Salvador	2	0	1 Familial CSI
<b>Total Americas</b>	<b>2256</b>	<b>44</b>	
Spain	81	0	9 CSI (5 Cataluña, 2 Castilla de la Mancha, 2 Valencia)
Portugal	1	0	
United-Kingdom	32	0	10 CSI (9 England (cluster of 7, 1 London, 1 South West England) et 1 Scotland) and 2 acquired in USA (Texas, NYC)
France	10	0	
Denmark	1	0	(acquired in New York)
Germany	9	0	2 CSI (Bavaria)
Austria	1	0	
Poland	1	0	Imported (NYC)
Sweden	1	0	Imported (USA)
Switzerland	1	0	
Ireland	1	0	
Italy	5	0	
Netherlands	1	0	
<b>Total Europe</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>0</b>	
China (Hong Kong)	1	0	
South Korea	2	0	Familial CSI
<b>Total Asia</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	
-	-	-	
<b>Total Africa</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	(No confirmed cases, to date)
Israel	7	0	
<b>Total Middle-East</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	
New Zealand	5	0	With at least 1 case acquired in USA (California)**
<b>Total Oceania</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Total World</b>	<b>2416</b>	<b>44</b>	

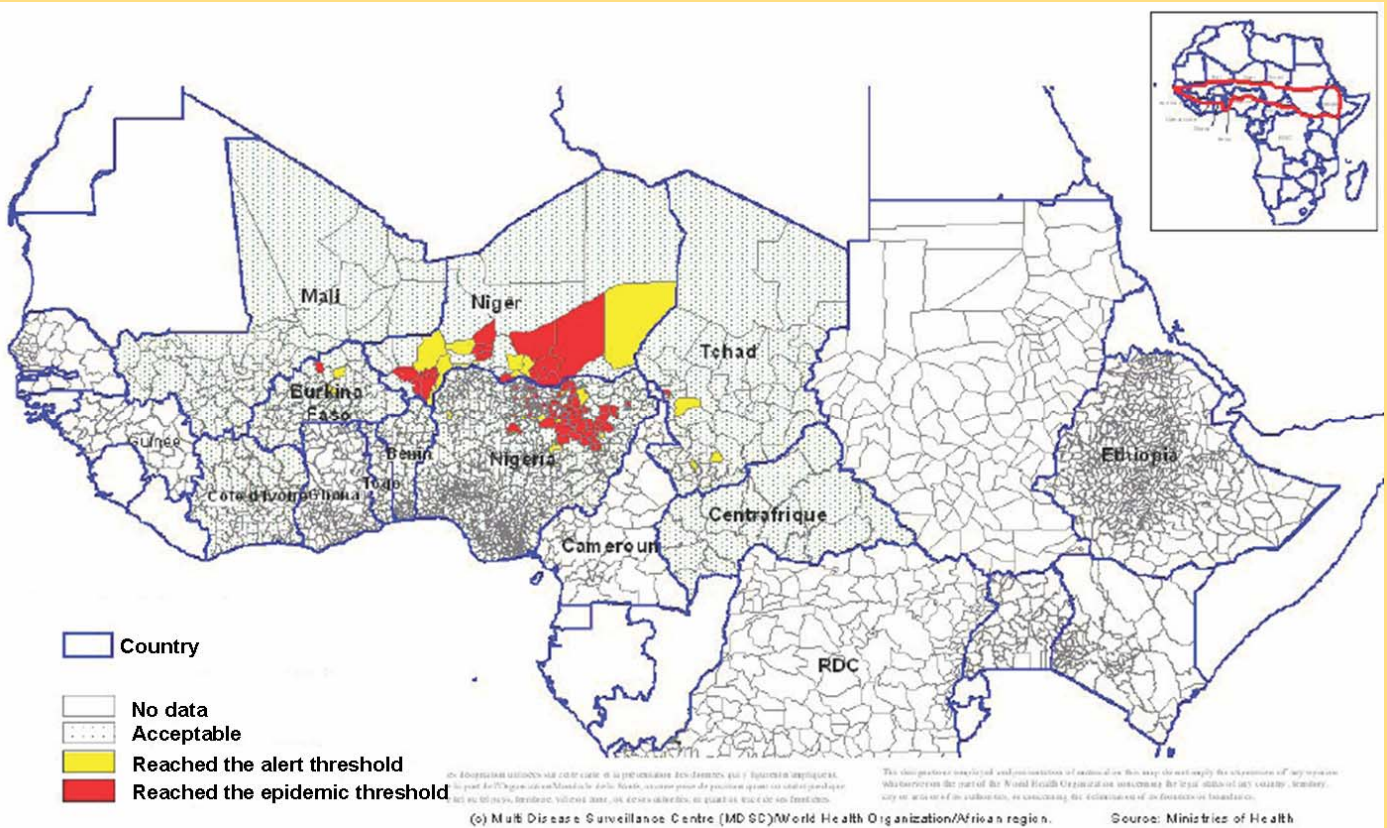
\* According to case definition and national official declaration

\*\* To date, New-Zealand authorities have reported 5 confirmed cases

Figure 1. Suspect meningitis cases reported in Niger and Chad in 2008 and 2009 (as of 12/04/2009) (source: WHO)



Map 3. Districts in alert and in epidemic\* reported in 11 countries of the 14 participating to the WHO meningitis sentinel network, 01/01/2009-12/04/2009



\* Alert and epidemic thresholds are defined according to [WHO](http://www.who.int).