

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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### Location: China

### Event: A(H5N1) – Human

### Comments

On 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2010, Chinese Ministry of Health reported one fatal human case of A(H5N1) infection:

- A 22-year-old pregnant woman from Hubei province (cf. map 1)
- She developed the symptoms on May 23, and has been hospitalized later
- She died on June 3, 2010. She had a contact history with dead poultry.
- No A(H5N1) outbreak in poultry has been reported in this province. the Ministry of Agriculture has sent experts, investigation are ongoing.
- Local health authorities have enhanced surveillance, preventive and controlled measures, and all contacts have been closely monitored.

Map 1: Hubei province, China.



- In China, the last human case was reported in February 2009 in Hunan province (cf. [eWEB n°46](#)). To date, of the 39 cases confirmed, 26 have been fatal.
- Since 2003, in several occasions, in China, A(H5N1) human cases have been biologically confirmed in the absence of official notification of avian influenza outbreak in poultry.
- This underlines either the sub-optimal veterinary surveillance or the under reporting of animal outbreaks.
- To date, the available information does not indicate a change in the epidemiology of the virus.

### Location: Vietnam

### Event: A(H5N1) – Epizootic

### Comments

- On 7 June 2010, Vietnamese health authorities reported an A(H5N1) influenza outbreak in poultry and ducks in farms, in the Quang Nam province (centre of the country, cf. map 2).

Map 2. Quang Nam, Vietnam.



- A(H5N1) epizootics are regularly recorded in Vietnam.
- The last epizootics in Vietnam were reported in April 2010, in Bac Kan province and in March 2010 in Bac Ninh, Ben Tre, Quang Ninh and Yen Hung provinces (cf. [eWEB n°108](#) and [106](#)).
- The available information does not indicate a change in the epidemiology of the virus.

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

**Location:** Italy ex-Egypt

**Event:** Dengue (suspicion)

Comments

**Suspected cases description**

- The Torino Hospital reported 2 suspect cases of dengue: 2 women, aged 71 and 72 years, who travelled to Egyptian Red Sea resorts in **Marsa Alam**, **Berenice** and **Bir Shalateen** (cf. map 3).
- **For both case:**
  - ✓ Presented with fever, joint pains, vomiting, and diarrhoea.
  - ✓ Were discharged following clinical improvement.
  - ✓ Dengue serology was negative at presentation.
  - ✓ 10 days later both presented (low) positive IgG and IgM serology and were positive for Dengue IgG immuno-fluorescence assay.
  - ✓ West Nile virus IgG serology was also positive (IgM negative).
- Further investigations, especially PCR are ongoing. Given the frequent cross-reactivity among flaviviruses, final diagnosis is pending awaiting results of ongoing investigations.

**Epidemiological context**

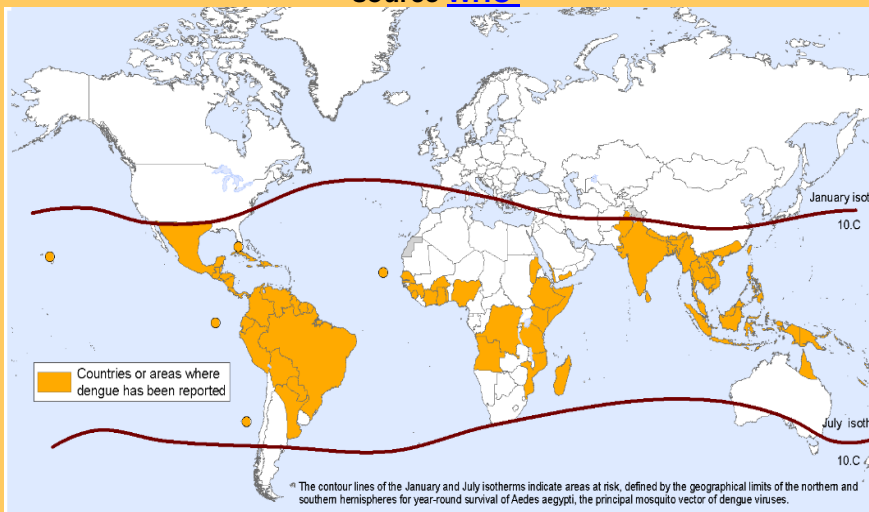
- Dengue is not known to circulate in Egypt. The last dengue outbreak was reported in the 1940'.
- West Nile virus is known to be endemic in the Middle-East region.

**Ongoing investigation**

- Egyptian MoH has recently carried out investigation in the South of the country in the area of Shalateen which borders to the Sudan.
- According to these investigations:
  - ✓ There no evidence of *Aedes Aegypti* presence in the area
  - ✓ No suspect human case of dengue fever was detected.
- Similar investigations (including entomological) are currently ongoing in the Marsa Alam and Berenice areas.

- Since the end of 2009, Dengue outbreaks have been reported in Sudan, Saudi Arabia ([eWEB n°103, 110](#)) and Yemen ([eWEB n°85](#)), the viral circulation in those countries is still active.
- The occurrence of these outbreaks suggests that *Aedes aegypti* mosquito might be present in a wider area of the Red Sea (map 4).
- Ongoing investigation (Biological in Italy and entomological and case finding in Egypt) are crucial to assess the significance of this report.

**Map 4. Dengue countries or areas at Risk of Dengue adapted from source [WHO](#)**



**Map 3. Marsa Alma, Berenice and Shalateen, Egypt.**



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

**Location: France**

**Event: Measles**

**Comments**

**Outbreak in the Nord-Pas-de-Calais Region (Source : InVS CIRE Nord)**

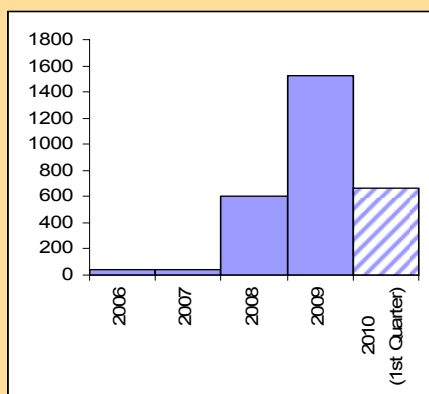
Between 26 January and 3<sup>rd</sup> June, the Regional health authority (ARS) and InVS regional bureau (CIRE) reported 121 cases of measles in the Nord-pas-de-Calais region (North of the country) among which 28% were biologically confirmed.

- Among the 114 cases for whom all information was complete:
  - ✓ 46 where community (32%) or health care settings (8%) (acquired infections)
  - ✓ 55 (48%) belong to Bulgarian speaking Roma community
  - ✓ 13 (12%) belong to other Travellers communities (travelling showmen, non Roma communities. etc)
  - ✓ Most cases are concentrated around Lille metropolitan area
- 105 cases were reported through mandatory notification and 16 identified through active case finding (all 16 belong to Roma population).
- Further biological investigations (genotyping) are ongoing.
- Most cases were children (mean 11 years, median 6 ½ years), although cases identified in the Roma population were younger (mean 7 years, median 4 years)
- None of the cases were fully vaccinated:
  - ✓ 47% had not been vaccinated
  - ✓ 11% had received only one dose
  - ✓ For 41% immunisation status was unknown, among whom ⅔ belong to Roma population

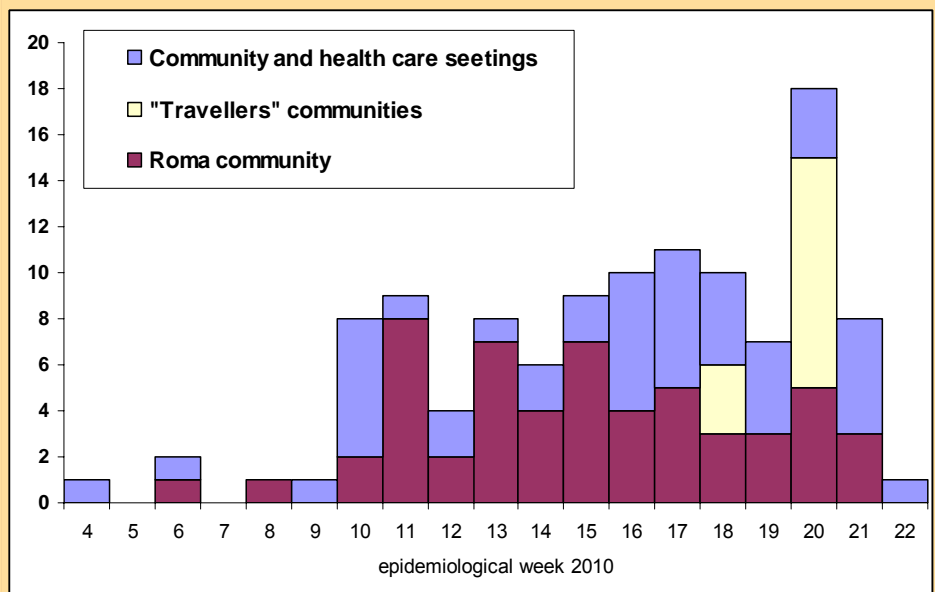
Controls measures (information, strengthening of immunisation strategies; etc) have been implemented by regional health authorities.

- Since 2008, an increased measles circulation has been reported in France and the outbreak is intensifying in 2010 (Figure 1).
- Although the increasing number is partially due to an improved cases notification, it mainly reflects the intensification of the viral circulation in France in not or not completely vaccinated communities.
- Cases occur mainly among children and young adults. Clustered cases occur mainly in kinder garden and schools and among "Travelling" populations. An increase of cases among Health care workers in health care settings has also been reported.
- Although, to date no formal links have been established with the ongoing measles outbreak in Bulgaria, this possibility cannot be excluded.
- Beside, previous episodes have linked to Bulgarian migrant population has previously been reported especially in Spain ([eWEB n°111](#)) but also in Poland and Ireland.

**Figure 1. Measles cases reported in France through mandatory notification, 2006-2010 (1st quarter).**  
 Source: CIRE Nord, InVS.



**Figure 2. Weekly Measles cases, Nord-pas-de-Calais Region, France, 26 January - 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2010.**  
 Source: CIRE Nord, InVS.



**REPORT of NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING OUTSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA**  
*(Not occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)*

**Area:** USA + World    **Event:** Recall of product: cadmium

- On 4th June, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission announced a recall of Mc Donald's "Shrek Forever After 3D" collectable drinking glasses following detection of cadmium in the paint used for these glasses and advised consumers to immediately stop using these products.
- Over 12 millions glasses should be recalled for the USA only.
- Similar products have already been distributed in several countries (e.g. Russia) however the exact distribution of these products is not known and is usually linked to the release of the new Shrek film (which varies according to countries).

**Comments**

- Cadmium is a known carcinogen (esp. bones and kidney problems) including following long term low level exposure

**Recalled Products**

