

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 influenza – none
- A(H5N1) Avian influenza – China (Tibet)
- “INSIDE” Events:
 - Meningitis - Serbia
 - Dengue - Italy ex-Tanzania
 - Measles - Greece
- “OUTSIDE” Events – none

Location: World

Event: A(H5N1) –
Human

Comments

No human cases reported this week.

Location: Vietnam

Event: A(H5N1) –
Epizootic

Comments

- On 2nd July 2010, Chinese health authorities reported to the OIE a cluster of A(H5N1) influenza infected wild birds in Tibet (Xizang province, cf. map 1).

Map 1. Tibet Autonomous region.



- The last A(H5N1) influenza epizootics in Tibet was reported in June 2010 (cf. [eWEB n°117](#)).
- In China, the last human case was reported in May 2010 in Hubei province (cf. [eWEB n°116](#)).
- 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: Serbia

Event: Meningitis

Comments

The Institute of Public Health in Belgrade (Serbia) has reported an ongoing outbreak of aseptic meningitis in Novi Sad region. To date, the trend is not increasing.

- The outbreak is mainly located outside Novi Sad, the number of cases being low in Novi Sad city.
- The disease is endemic and occurs usually in the summer. The number of cases annually reported is around 60 for the whole region of Vojvodina (cf. map 2).
- 62 cases have been reported so far since the beginning of June.
 - ✓ All cases diagnosed by expert clinicians and fulfilling case definition for aseptic meningitis.
 - ✓ Samples have been sent to reference laboratory.
 - ✓ All cases had a mild clinical presentation.
 - ✓ Control measures include an enhanced hand hygiene campaign.
 - ✓ 90% are pre-school children, very few adults (mostly parents of the children) and none of them attending EXIT.
- EXIT is an annual summer music festival in the Petrovaradin Fortress of Novi Sad, Serbia. EXIT 2010 began on July 9, and ended on July 11, 2010.
- The Institute of Public Health of Serbia, Department for communicable disease control and prevention is monitoring the situation, particularly during the EXIT festival.

Map 2. Novi Sad city (Vojvodina region), Serbia.



Location: Italy ex-Tanzania

Event: Dengue

Comments

- On 09 July 2010, the Spallanzani National institute for infectious diseases in Roma reported a case of Dengue-3 virus infection:
 - ✓ In a traveller who had returned from Zanzibar (Tanzania) on 24 June 2010 (cf. map 3)
 - ✓ He developed symptoms 3 days later and was admitted to hospital.
 - ✓ Virologists confirmed the virus by RT-PCR in a serum collected on 30 June

Map 3. Zanzibar, Tanzania.



- Several dengue cases imported from Tanzania were documented in 2010:
 - ✓ In Japan, in February and March 2010, in 2 travellers back from Tanzania,
 - ✓ In Sweden, in April 2010, an imported dengue case, in a traveller back from Zanzibar.
 - ✓ In all 3 cases, DEN-3 serotype was identified.
- In 2010, Dengue outbreaks have been documented in Madagascar, the republic of Comoros and Mayotte.
- Dengue is not known to be endemic in Tanzania.
- However, these different reports suggest the existence of dengue infection in Tanzania and in Zanzibar in particular, and support that Dengue-3 virus is circulating in Africa.

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

Location: Greece	Event: Measles	Comments
<p>Measles Outbreak in Bulgaria and Greece (source: KEELPNO)</p> <p>Context in Bulgaria Since April 2009, there is an important measles epidemic occurring mainly among Roma population travellers in Bulgaria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From April 2009 - up to week 23 (June 2010): 22 425 measles cases (including 24 deaths) were reported. Several other European countries also experimented measles outbreak associated with this epidemic. <p>In Greece From January 2010 to 18 June 2010, 97 measles cases have been declared nationwide, to the Department of Epidemiological Surveillance and Intervention KEELPNO.</p> <p>Case classification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 64 cases (66%) were laboratory confirmed (by serology and / or throat swab PCR). 33 cases were possible (ie cases with compatible clinical picture and/or epidemiological linked to a confirmed case). <p>Laboratory investigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Among the 9 confirmed measles cases isolated (from Greek Pasteur Institute), the measles virus genotype D4 was found in 5 cases of Bulgarian citizenship and in 4 cases of Greek nationality (Roma*) <p>Special population groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35 cases (36%) were of Bulgarian nationality (including Roma* - mobile populations, who came to Greece for seasonal agricultural work together with their families). 59 cases (61%) were of Greek nationality, of which 23 Roma* (24%). 3 cases were of another citizenship (1 Albanian and 2 tourists, one Danish and one French citizen). <p>Description of the measles outbreak in a year - epidemic curve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As shown by the epidemic curve (Figure 1), the first notified measles cases were 2 Bulgarian. From week 22 (June 2010), there has been an increase in the incidence of declared cases related mainly to Greek Roma* cases, suggesting that the broad spread of the disease is now in indigenous populations and mainly in population with low vaccination coverage <p>Age distribution: 61% of cases (n=59) were children aged 0-14 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As shown in figure 2, in this age-group (0-14 years) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 46% of Bulgarian cases (16/35) were 0-4 years 91% of Roma* Greek cases belong to the 0-14 age group and were mainly 0-4 years 58% (21/36 cases) of Not Roma* Greek cases were adults aged >20 years <p>Vaccination status of the 80 measles cases with a known status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70 cases (88%) were "unvaccinated" 10 cases (12%) had a history of vaccination against measles, of which 7 with one dose and 3 cases with an unknown number of doses 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To date no formal links have been established with the ongoing measles outbreak in Bulgaria, but extension to other European and neighbouring countries cannot be excluded. Previous episodes linked to Bulgarian migrant population have previously been reported especially in Spain (eWEB n°111) but also in Poland, Ireland and France (cf. eWEB n°116). <p>(*) the difference of "Roma" and "Gypsy" notions being not clear enough in the official report and in the absence of English version, we use the "Roma" term for both populations in the text and figures.</p>

Figure 1: Reported measles cases per week of symptoms and population group, Greece, 2010 (to 18/6/2010) (n = 93)
(Source: KEELPNO)

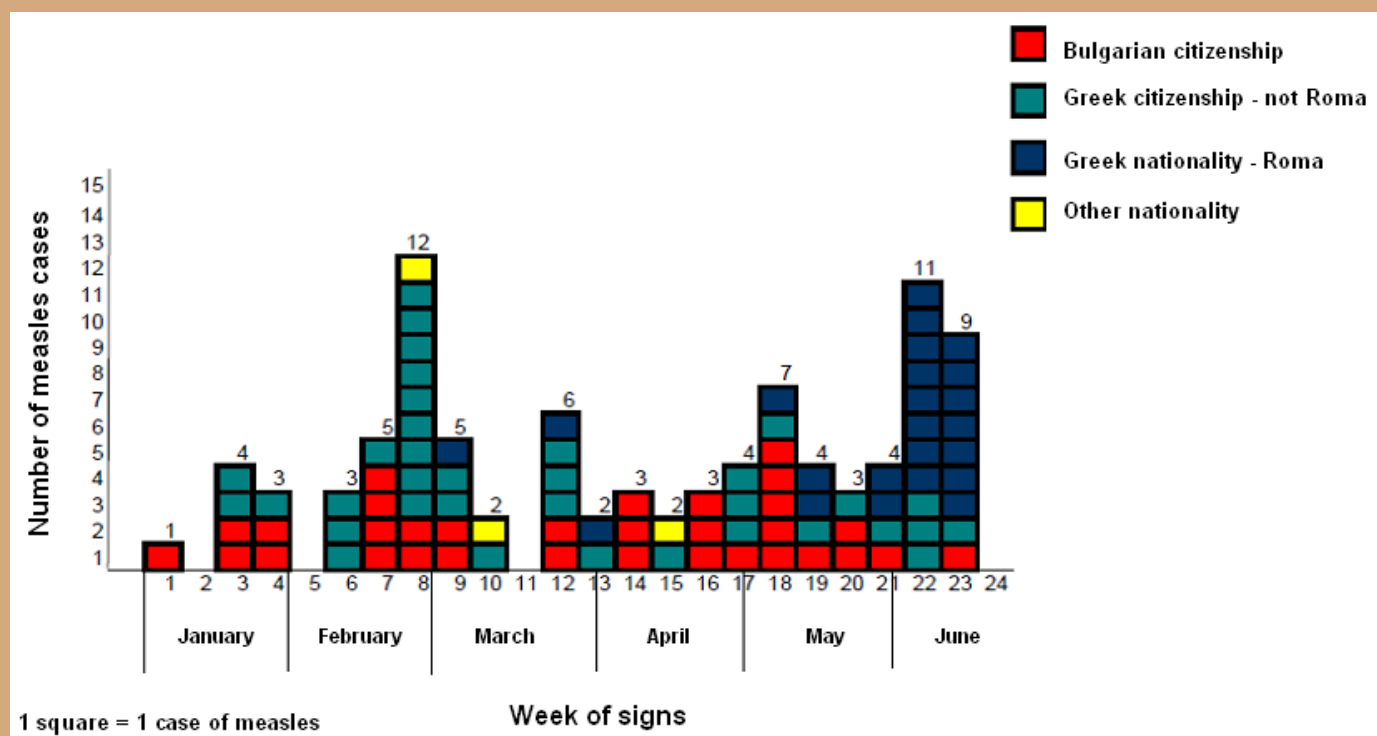


Figure 2: Number of declared measles cases by age group and nationality / population group, Greece, 2010.
(Source: KEELPNO)

