

EpiSouth Weekly Epi Bulletin - N°126 11 August 2010 - 17 August 2010



Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

The objective of the bulletin is to report new heath 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°126

- A(H5N1) Human influenza none
- A(H5N1) Avian influenza none
- "INSIDE" Events:
 - West Nile virus Greece, Morocco
 - Aseptic Meningitis Serbia, Latvia
- "OUTSIDE" Events:
 - Extensively antibiotic-resistant Enterobacteriaceae- Europe
 - Dengue Florida

Location: World Event: A(H5N1) – Human <u>Comments</u>

No human cases reported this week.

Location: world Event: A(H5N1) – Epizootic <u>Comments</u>

No influenza A(H5N1) epizootic reported this week.

REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING <u>OUTSIDE</u> THE EPISOUTH AREA (not occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)

Location: Europe Event: Extensively resistant enteropacteriaceae Comments

- The emergence of a resistant strain to carbapenems, called NDM-1 (New Delhi metallo-β-lactamase,) was identified in Southeast Asia (India, Pakistan) and is now the subject of an alert. Several European countries and other parts of the world reported an increase in the antibiotic resistance in Enterobacteriaceae bacteria. Imported cases have been reported in Belgium, France, Sweden and UK.
- These extensively antibiotic-resistant Enterobacteriaceae still remain relatively an uncommon cause of human infection in Europe. Bacteria epidemic could spread internationally by patient transfers between hospitals from different countries.
- The potential expansion of this resistance is a major concern for public health.
 The situation is following with attention both internationally. More information on ECDC website.
- This new NDM-1 enzyme was first detected in 2008 in a patient repatriated to Sweden after being treated in a hospital in New-Delhi, India.

REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING INSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA

(occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)

Location: Greece, Morocco Event: West Nile virus

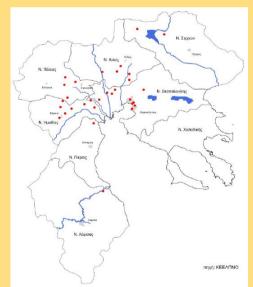
Table1. Number of laboratory diagnosed West Nile virus infections and deaths, 17 August 2010. (source: KEELPNO)

Number of cases	Number of cases	Total	Number of deaths
with central nervous	without central nervous	number	
system manifestation	system manifestation	of cases	
58	2	60	4

Map 2. Province of central Macedonia, Greece.



Map 3: Patients with laboratory diagnosis for West Nile infection, as of 08/11/201, Greece. (source: KEELPNO)



CONTEXT:

In recent months, infections related to West Nile viruses were reported in Greece, Italy and Israel: cf. <u>eWEB n°125</u>.

In Greece:

- On August 7, 2010, the Greek health authorities have reported indigenous cases of West Nile infection in the province of Central Macedonia (see Map 2).
- On 17 August, 60 cases were reported with 4 deaths (13 cases and 1 death biologically confirmed).
- Most patients are patients aged over 70 years and presented meningitis or encephalitis.
- According to the Greek authorities, the veterinary and vector surveillance were enhanced in this province. Blood centers have been alerted and a public awareness has been initiated.

In Morrocco

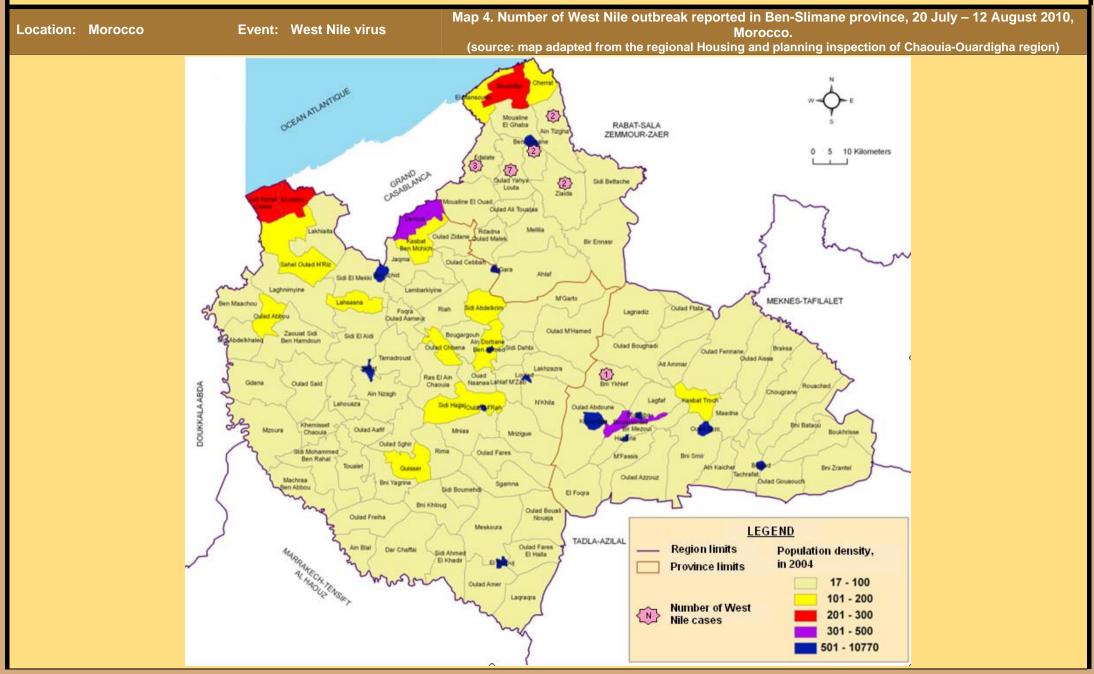
- On 18 August 2010, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of Morocco reported to OIE a West Nile outbreak located in Ben-Slimane province (cf. map 4) among equines:
 - The first infection started on 20th July 2010.
 - o To date, a total of 17 cases, 8 deaths were reported to OIE.
 - o A total of 16 outbreaks were detected in Ben-Slimane province.
- Until now, no human case infected by the West Nile virus has been reported.
- Recently, the region benefit for a vector eradication campaign which minimise the risk of transmission.
- At local level, all the regional health centres are alerted to detect any suspect case.
- In Morocco, the last West Nile outbreak among equines was reported in 2003.

COMMENTS:

- West Nile virus had never been reported so far in Greece.
- A seroprevalence study in 1980 indicated the presence of serum antibodies to West Nile at 1% of the population of Central Macedonia.
- West Nile virus is endemo-epidemic in Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean with epidemics regularly reported.
- In North Africa, Tunisia has experienced two outbreaks of West Nile fever: in 1997 and 2003 (source: Epireg Maghreb) and Algeria in 1994.

REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING INSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA

(occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)



REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING INSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA

(occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)

Location: Serbia, Latvia

Event: Aseptic meningitis

Figure 1. Cases of aseptic meningitis by date of symptom onset, Novi Sad, Serbia, 2 June -25 July 2010 (n=80). Source: Eurosurveillance.

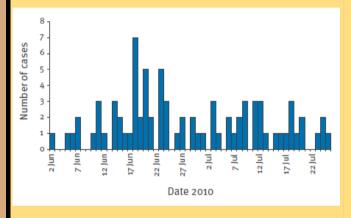


Figure 2. Incidence rate of aseptic meningitis per 100,000 pop. By age group and sex, Novi Sad, Serbia, 2 June -25 July 2010 (n=80). Source: Eurosurveillance.

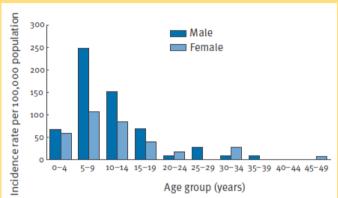


Figure 3. Cases of aseptic meningitis by month of symptom onset, Latvia, 2007-2010.

Source: <u>Eurosurveillance</u>

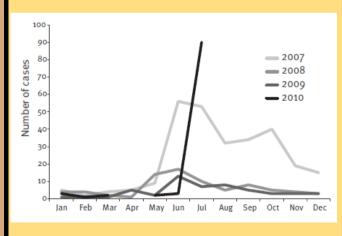
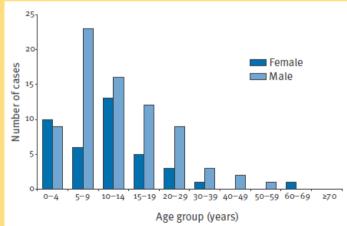


Figure 4. Cases of aseptic meningitis by sex and age group, Latgale region, 30 June – 9 August 2010 (n=114), Latvia. Source: <u>Eurosurveillance</u>



Comments:

Serbia:

- Since June 2010, incidence of aseptic meningitis has increased in the city of Novi Sad, in the autonomous province of Vojvodina.
- From 2 June to 25 July 2010, 80 aseptic meningitis cases were reported to the Institute of Public Health in Vojvodina: cf. figure1.
- The cumulative incidence for the period was 30 per 100,000 population, compared with 2 per 100,000 pop. in 2009 and 4 per 100,000 pop. in 2008.
- The incidence rate ranged from 10 to 366 per 100,000 pop. in different local communities.
- The majority of cases (n=64) were aged between 2 and 15 years: cf. figure 2.
- The Echovirus 30 was isolated in 2 specimens.

Latvia

- Since the end of June 2010, an outbreak of aseptic meningitis is ongoing in several areas of Latgale region, South-Eastern of Latvia.
- From 30 June to 9 August 2010, 136 aseptic meningitis cases were registered in Latvia (6 cases per 100,000 pop.), 114 of whom were reported from Latgale region (33 cases per 100,000 pop.)
- Most of the cases were registered in the city and neighbouring municipalities of Daugavpils.
- The 2 causative agents identified were coxsackie A-9 and echovirus 30.
- The majority of cases (82%) were children and adolescents (aged 2 to 19 years): cf. figure 4.
- The previous largest aseptic meningitis outbreak in Latvia occurred in August to November 2006, due to echovirus 30 infection, with 408 cases.
- A substantial increase of aseptic meningitis was observed in 2007 but echovirus 6 and 18 were the dominants: cf. figure 3.

REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING OUTSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA

(not occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)

Location: USA Event: Dengue

- On 13 August 2010, Florida health authorities reported an autochthonous case of Dengue in the Broward County (South of the state, cf. map 5):
- The DEN-3 serotype was identified.

Comments:

- Until 2009, no indigenous cases had been reported in Florida during the previous 40 years.
- In 2009, 27 autochthones cases were reported in Key West (Florida) in the Monroe County (cf. eWEB n°79).
- Since the beginning of 2010, 26 new indigenous cases of dengue were reported by health authorities in Florida, including 25 acquired in Key West in Monroe County.
- The 26th case detected in Broward County being (DEN-3), is the first confirmed case in Florida acquired outside of Monroe County, showing a geographical extension of the disease transmission in that state. Furthermore, the identification of a new serotype indicates a new introduction.
- Considering the presence of *Aedes aegypti* and *Albopictus* vectors and the large number of cases of dengue imported into Florida, the extension of a transmission cycle could be a major risk.

Map 5. Broward and Monroe counties, Florida, USA.

