

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°127

- A(H5N1) Human influenza – none
- A(H5N1) Avian influenza – none
- “INSIDE” Events:
 - Mumps – Gaza strip
- “OUTSIDE” Events:
 - Rift Valley fever – Saudi Arabia
 - West Nile virus – Russia, Euro-Mediterranean area

Location: World Event: A(H5N1) – Human

Comments

No human cases reported this week.

Location: world Event: A(H5N1) – Epizootic

Comments

No influenza A(H5N1) epizootic reported this week .

REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING INSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA

(occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)

Location: Gaza Strip Event: Mumps

Comments

- During week 28 to 31, 19 cases of mumps were reported in the Gaza strip.
- The mumps cases are twice higher than in the same period in 2009 and most of them were from Gaza and North areas (cf. map 1):
 - 7 from Gaza city, 3 from Zaiton, 1 from Beach, 3 from Beit Hanoun, 4 from Middle area and 1 from Khan Younis.
- The age of affected cases ranged between 3 years to 47 years.
- All were previously immunized by MMR except for the oldest female case who was 47 years and came from Beit Hanoun (immunization status undermined)
- The male/female ratio was 12.7
- Control measures were implemented in coordination with the Ministry of Health: massive health education and isolation of cases and biological confirmation of cases.
- More information available from the [Epidemiological Bulletin for Gaza Strip](#).

- In the region, Israel experiments also an ongoing outbreak of Mumps.

Map 1. Number of Mumps cases in Gaza Strip.



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

Location	Saudi Arabia	Event:	Rift valley fever	<u>Comments</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">On 23 August 2010, the Ministry of Agriculture of Saudi Arabia reported retrospectively to QIE an outbreak of Rift Valley fever (RVF) in the Jizan province (South West of the country, cf. map 2) among cattle and sheep.<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ The first infection started in 10th March 2010 and was confirmed on 15th March 2010.✓ To date, among 101 susceptible cases, 1 cattle and 5 sheep were confirmed. All confirmed cases were destroyed.✓ The Laboratory diagnosis was performed by the local Jazan laboratory.✓ Serological survey in the affected region showed that the local animals have adequate protective immune antibodies titers.✓ No human case associated with this outbreak has been reported.However, in Saudi Arabia, several provinces are endemic to Rift Valley fever and documented RVF cases: Asir, Jizan and Najran.				<ul style="list-style-type: none">However, in Saudi Arabia, several provinces are endemic to Rift Valley fever and documented RVF cases: Asir, Jizan and Najran.The last documented outbreak with RVF cases was reported in 2000 with 884 cases including 124 deaths, mainly in Jizan provinces of Jizan, Asir and Quenfadah.In December 2008, the Asir Agriculture department in Saudi Arabia communicated a suspicion of Rift Valley Fever outbreak among cattle in Asir region (cf. eWEB 38).Regarding human cases, 3 suspect cases were reported in May 2010 and 1 confirmed human case in April 2010 (cf. eWEB n°112), in Najran province which is west neighbouring province of Jizan.
<p>Map 2. Jizan, Najran and Asir provinces, Saudi Arabia.</p> 				

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

Location	Russia	Event:	West Nile	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From July 16 to August 23, 2010, 116 cases of West Nile virus (WN) infections with 5 deaths were reported by health authorities of the Volgograd Region (southwest of the country), including 101 in the district of Volgograd (Map 3). According to health authorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ All age groups are affected with a predominance in those over 60 years ✓ About 80% of infections are related to outdoor activities. ✓ Currently, between six and 10 new cases are diagnosed daily. The vector control measures have been stepped up as well as human cases surveillance. (especially surveillance area has been enlarged). The period of transmission to human in this region typically begins in July. This year, the increase in the number of cases occurred one month earlier than previous years. A large increase in the number of mosquitoes due to the large rainfalls in May and June was observed not only in the Volgograd region but also in neighbouring regions and other further North. The vector density found this year compared to previous years is on average 10 times higher in the Volgograd region and 20-30 times in the floodplain of the Volga 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Russia, Volgograd region has become endemic for WN virus since 1999, when the largest documented outbreak in the countries of the former Soviet Union occurred : 826 suspected cases and 40 deaths had been reported Natural conditions and climate characteristics of the Volgograd region provide ideal conditions for migratory birds that gather in large numbers to nest in the Volga delta. <p align="center">Map 3. Volgograd region, Russia</p> 

REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING INSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA
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Location:	Euro-Mediterranean	Event:	West Nile	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The notification this week of a large West Nile outbreak in Russia should be placed in the broader intensification of the WN circulation in Mediterranean area In the on cette semaine de foyers de WN au Maroc et en Russie s'inscrit dans un contexte plus large d'intensification de la circulation du virus dans le Bassin ainsi : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In Greece, The first ever reported outbreak is on going (Eweb N° 126), with 106 cases including 9 deaths reported on 24 August 2010. ✓ In Israel, At least 12 human cases have been reported early August ✓ In Morocco, 17 cases in horses were reported on 18th August (Eweb N° 126). Note :Birds are the main WN virus reservoir (Human and horses are only accidental hosts) 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Nile is endemo-epidemic in most of the recently affected zones, However, the simultaneous occurrence of active transmission flocci in both nesting areas (Volga delta) and on the main birds migratory routes crossing Europe an Near East is an unusual event (See map 4). Beside, the detection of the active transmission flocci on the main migratory routes (Greece, Israel and Morocco) takes place very early in the season as only very few species have started their autumn migration. The combination of the viral circulation on both nesting area and migratory routes (map 4) could lead to an intensification of the final circulation in the coming weeks (main autumn migration period

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Location: Euro-Mediterranean Event: West Nile virus

Map 4. Outline of main migratory ways and West Nile outbreaks recently notified (map from InVS/DIT)

