

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°134

- **A(H5N1) Human and avian influenza – None**
- **“INSIDE” Events:**
 - **Malaria – Spain, Morocco**
 - **West Nile – Mediterranean area: update**
- **“OUTSIDE” Events:**
 - **Polio - Kazakhstan**

Location: World

Event: A(H5N1) – Human and Epizootic

Comments

**No human cases reported this week.
No influenza A(H5N1) epizootic reported this week .**

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

Location: Kazakhstan

Event: Polio

Comments

- On 11 October 2010, the Kazakh health authorities have reported a case of indigenous poliomyelitis in a child of 7 years in the South Kazakhstan. 5 other cases are suspected.
- The child did not leave Kazakhstan.
- Vaccination campaigns have recently been performed in the country. This child was out of the targeted age group.
- Further campaigns are planned in this region, targeting children aged 0-15 years in the border regions of Kazakhstan and Almaty, Zhambyl, Kyzylorda and Mangistau.

Map 1. South of Kazakhstan



- On April 23, 2010, an outbreak of wild poliovirus (type 1) began in Tajikistan, while the European WHO region did not reported cases since 2002 (cf. [eWEB n°110](#)).
- The last WHO update, on 30 September 2010, reported 458 confirmed cases including 26 deaths ([polio update in Tajikistan](#)).
- Indigenous cases were reported in Russia (cf. [eWEB n°113](#)) and Turkmenistan.
- Given the location of the epidemic in Tajikistan and the frequency of asymptomatic infection by wild polio virus, a virus circulation in areas bordering Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan can not be excluded.

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

Location: Spain

Event: Malaria

Comments

- On October 8, 2010, a case of *Plasmodium vivax* has been reported by Spanish health authorities.
- The case is:
 - ✓ a 48 year old woman living in Huesca, Aragon (cf. map 2)
 - ✓ She never travelled outside the country, has not received recent treatment (transfusion), and does not live near an airport.
 - ✓ The samples were sent to the Institute Carlos III (Madrid), which confirmed the diagnosis of malaria on 1st October 2010.
 - ✓ The patient was treated and she's in stable condition.
- The *Anopheles atroparvus* vector is present in all over Spain.
- To date, the origin of the contamination was not identified.

Map 2. Huesca, Aragon, Spain.



- In Spain, the last indigenous cases were reported during the 1950s. Spain was declared malaria free by the WHO in September 1964.
- As in Spain, isolated cases of autochthonous malaria were reported in Greece (2009-2010), Albania (2010), France (Corsica - 2006) and Italy (1997, 2009).
- Such cases are due to local transmission from imported cases, unidentified, back from an endemic area in the presence of a competent vector.

Location: Morocco

Event: Malaria

Comments

- On 22 September 2010, the Moroccan Ministry of Health confirmed two cases of indigenous malaria *Plasmodium falciparum* in the district of Hay Hassani, Casablanca (North West, cf. map 3).
- To date, investigations have not identified other suspected cases.
- The origin of the contamination could be identified.
- Control measures have been taken by health authorities.

Map 3. Casablanca, Morocco.



- In Morocco, the last cases of malaria due to *P. falciparum* were reported in 1963.
- The last cases of malaria due to *P. vivax* were reported in the years 1973-80.
- Since May 2010, Morocco was declared malaria-free by WHO.
- To date, consequences for France are limited due to the absence of evidence of an active cycle of transmission.

Location: Mediterranean

Event: West Nile

Comments

- **Greece:** On October 8, 2010, 5 new outbreaks (5 horses) were reported to the OIE, all located in Central Macedonia (an area already affected, cf. map 4).

Map 4. Central Macedonia, Greece.



- The epidemiological situation in other Euro-Mediterranean countries remains unchanged.