

EpiSouth Weekly Epi Bulletin - N°135 13 October 2010 - 19 October 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°135

- A(H5N1) Human influenza Indonesia
- A(H5N1) Avian influenza None
- "INSIDE" Events: none
- "OUTSIDE" Events:
 - Glanders Middle-East countries

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

- On 18 October 2010, the Indonesian Ministry of Health reported to WHO 2 human cases of A(H5N1) infection.
- The 1st case is:
 - ✓ A 35 year-old man from Jakarta province (cf. map 1)
 - He developed symptoms on 16 August and was hospitalised on 20 August 2010.
 - ✓ He died on 26th August 2010
 - ✓ Investigations indicate exposure with sick and dead poultry.
- The 2nd case is:
 - ✓ A 40 year-old woman from Java West province (cf. map 1)
 - ✓ She developed symptoms on 9th September and was hospitalised on 12 September 2010.
 - ✓ She died on 17th September 2010
 - ✓ Investigations indicate exposure with sick and dead poultry.
- Since the 1st case of bird flu in Indonesia, to date the case count is 170 cases including 141 deaths.
 - Map 1. Jakarta and Java West provinces, Indonesia.



- In Indonesia, the last human case was reported in August 2010 in Banten province (cf. eWEB n°124).
- The available information does not indicate a change in the epidemiology of the virus in Indonesia.

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

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: Bahrain, Kuwait Event: Glanders

In many Middle-East countries, glanders is an infectious disease that mainly affects horses and that could poses according to OIE a serious health risk to animals and humans.

A <u>recent OIE investigation</u> performed in Syria, Kuwait and Bahrain between 2nd and 8th of October 2010 revealed that a strengthening of early detection and laboratory diagnosis capacity combined with a better disease reporting could facilitate glanders monitoring in the region.

Bahrain

- Last May 2010, Bahrain health authorities reported to OIE the
 occurrence of glanders in horses in Shakhora (in the North of
 the country) with a total of 36 infected confirmed horses: cf.
 eWEB n°112.
- The 1st two horses, that were tested positive, originated from Syria and Kuwait and arrived 6 month ago.
- The population of horses in Bahrain is about 4,046 heads and 120 heads of donkeys. All the animals have been sampled and tested for glanders.
- The total number of cases includes 45 horses positive to CFT with clinical signs that were euthanized and 4 positive donkeys which were also euthanized.
- Most of these cases were found in Saar and Shakhoura, located in Northern governorate: cf. map 2.
- Glanders is a reportable disease in Bahrain, it had never been reported before.

Kuwait

- In Kuwait, from <u>January to June 2010</u>, 7 confirmed animal cases including 1 death were reported to OIE.
- From <u>July to December 2009</u>, 22 confirmed cases (0 deaths) were reported to OIE. All were put down.
- Further missions may follow in other parts of the Region based on country requests.



Map 2. Saar and Shakoura villages, Bahrain.



Comments

- Glanders is a highly contagious disease in horses. It can also be contracted by other animals such as mules, camels and donkeys. Dogs can also be infected in rare cases.
- The acute form results in coughing, fever and the release of a highly infectious nasal discharge. Death can occur within a few weeks, while survivors act as carriers.
- Humans can also be infected especially, people working close to sick animals without protection. It can be passed by direct contact with infected animals and entry is through skin abrasions, nasal and oral mucosal surfaces, or by inhalation. Diagnosis can be time-consuming.
- Although human disease is uncommon, it is life threatening and painful.
- Glanders has been eradicated from the US, Australia and most of Europe through surveillance and destruction of affected animals and import restrictions.
- In regards to measures implemented, risk for human appears limited.