

*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) Avian influenza – none**
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- **World – Pandemic A/H1N1/2009**

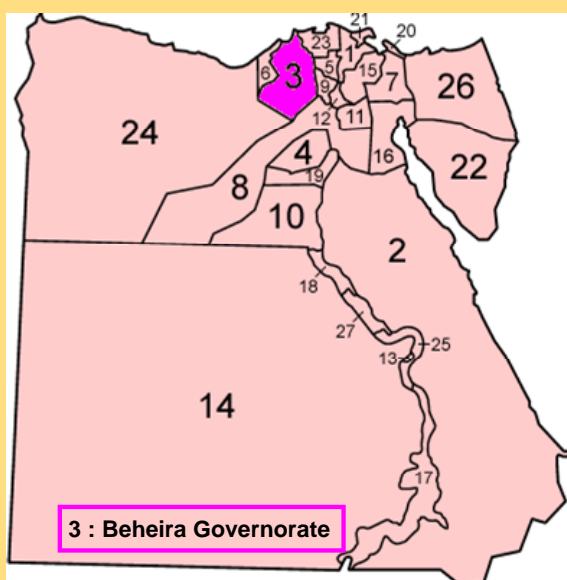
**Area: Egypt**

**Event: A(H5N1) – Human**

**Comments**

- On 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2009, Egyptian health authorities reported 1 new confirmed case of avian influenza A(H5N1).
- A 14 month-old girl from Beheira Governorate:
  - ✓ presented symptoms on 23<sup>th</sup> of September,
  - ✓ was admitted to Damanhur Fever Hospital where she received oseltamivir treatment
  - ✓ is in a stable condition.
  - ✓ had been in close contact with dead and/or sick poultry.
- Since April 2006, Egypt has reported a total of 87 confirmed human cases of avian influenza A(H5N1), 27 have been fatal.

**Map 1: Beheira Governorate, Egypt.**



- The occurrence of human cases of A(H5N1) in Egypt does not represent an unexpected event.
- To date, the available information does not indicate a change in the epidemiological characteristics of the virus.

**Area: World**

**Event: A(H5N1) – Epizootic**

**Comments**

**No avian influenza outbreak reported this week.**

## REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING OUTSIDE and INSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA

Area: World

Event: Pandemic A/H1N1/2009

### EpiSouth region

Considering that the exhaustive and individual case counting has stopped in many countries, the total number of confirmed cases of Pandemic A/H1N1/2009 is no longer representative. Among others, the number of deaths can be used as a proxy to assess the severity of the A/H1N1/2009 pandemic. As of 29 September 2009, a total of **84 deaths** among biologically confirmed A/H1N1/2009 cases has been reported in the **EpiSouth region**.

- Since 22 September 2009, no significant change regarding the evolution of the epidemic has been observed in the region. **8 new deaths** were notified: 1 in **Bulgaria** (1<sup>st</sup> death), 1 in **Israel**, 2 in **Italy**, and 4 in **Spain**.
- In Mainland **France**, from 21 to 29 September 2009, the incidence estimated by sentinel surveillance was 234/100 000 inh which is above the epidemic threshold of 96 cases/100 000 inh. Comparison with previous years (week 39) estimated an excess of 130 000 consultations for influenza-like illness.

For week 38, **Italian** health authorities estimated over 810 H1N1 new cases (clinical case definition) (versus 1 172, the previous week). As of 13 September 2009, 2 470 of 8 943 cases notified were confirmed for A/H1N1/2009. Since the beginning of the pandemic, the most frequently hospitalised age group is the 15-27 years.

For week 37, **Spain** reported a stable situation across the country, except in Andalusia and Cataluña. The global incidence for influenza-like illness (ILI) was estimated to 52 /100,000 inh. This incidence, even if higher than the previous week, remains below the epidemic threshold. The A/H1N1/2009 remains the predominant circulating virus.

For week 36, the ILI incidence in **Israel** is stable. The decrease observed for ILI consultations in clinics continues, as well the visits in paediatric emergencies which remain now below the epidemic threshold.

For **North African countries**, the situation is stable. No severe case and no death have been reported.

In **Balkans countries**, the influenza activity remains low to moderate.

### Global trends (outside the EpiSouth region)

- As of 30 September 2009, **4 301 deaths** related to A/H1N1/2009 have been reported **worldwide (except EpiSouth countries)**, including **167 new deaths** for the week 39 alone. **South America** reports 48% of total worldwide deaths, **North America** 21% and Asia 15%.
- At worldwide level, A/H1N1/2009 epidemic wave seems to end in the Southern hemisphere and the Inter-tropical region shows a decreasing trend.

The analysis of the various epidemiological and laboratory indicators since 29 September 2009 reflects the following trends:

- **Europe** (non-EpiSouth): In week 39, **8 new deaths** were reported: **4** in the **UK**, **1** in **Hungary**, **1** in **Norway** and the **2 first** in **Portugal**. Globally, the influenza activity varies from a country to another. An increase in influenza activity has been observed in the **UK**, **Scotland**, **Ireland** and **the Netherlands**. Both **Germany** and **Belgium** reported a low increase but with rates below ILI epidemic threshold. A decrease has been noted in **Sweden** and **Norway**. Both **Portugal** and **Switzerland** reported stable ILI consultations rates.
- Among **non-EpiSouth** countries of the **Middle East**, 9 A/H1N1/2009 related deaths were reported since 22 September: **Kuwait**, **Oman**, **Qatar**, **Saudi Arabia** and **Yemen**. To date, a total of **88 deaths** have been reported in this region.
- **American continent**: From 13 to 19 September, an increase in respiratory infections has been observed in Canada but is still below the expected seasonal influenza rates. An increasing trend in acute respiratory infections continues in the **US** and in **Mexico**. In the US, the majority of states (especially in the South) reported higher influenza consultations rates than their respective seasonal ones.
- In **Mexico**, the weekly number of cases seem to be similar to the one observed during the first pandemic wave. In the **Central and Southern Americas**, this week the influenza activity trend continues to decreasing in **Costa Rica** and in **El Salvador**, as well in **Brazil** and **Paraguay**.

- In **Asia**, for the week 39, **70 additional deaths** have been reported: 39 in **India** and 8 in **Japan**. In week 38, the A/H1N1/2009 epidemic continues to increase in **Nepal**. In **Japan**, the epidemic continues to spread with an observed seasonal ILI rates higher than the one reported last year.
- **Oceania**: As of 22 September 2009, consultations for influenza-like illness are decreasing in 12 of 19 of the Pacific Islands countries and territories notifying cases of A/H1N1/2009 but increase in the **Cook Islands** and the **Salomon Islands**. In **Australia** and the **New Zealand** the epidemic continues to drop, even if the **6 new deaths** of this region in week 39 have been reported by **Australia**.
- In **Sub-Saharan Africa**: as of 24 September 2009, 23 countries notified cases of A/H1N1/2009. In the **South Africa**, the latest available data seem to show the end of the pandemic wave. In this country, **12 new deaths** have been reported in week 39: a total of 59 deaths (since the beginning of the epidemic) among which 21 pregnant women.