



*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°82

- **A(H5N1) Human influenza –none**
- **A(H5N1) Avian influenza – none**
- **“OUTSIDE” Events: none**
- **“INSIDE” Events:**
  - **Spain – Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) A(H7)**
- **World – Pandemic A/H1N1/2009**

Area: World	Event: A(H5N1) – human	<u>Comments</u>
-------------	------------------------	-----------------

No human cases reported this week		
-----------------------------------	--	--

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

No avian influenza outbreak reported this week		
--	--	--

**REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING INSIDE THE EPISOUTH REGION**

Area:	Spain	Event:	HPAI- A(H7) – epizootic	<u>Comments</u>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● On 9 October 2009, Spanish health authorities reported an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ it occurred in a family poultry farm in Guadalajara, in the region of Castilla-La Mancha, 60 km east of Madrid (cf map 1.)</li> <li>✓ 30 000 hens were found dead.</li> <li>✓ 278 640 were slaughtered.</li> <li>✓ Neuraminidase identification is pending.</li> <li>✓ Surveillance has been enhanced on site and investigations are ongoing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All measures prescribed for the control of HPAI have been implemented.</li> <li>● To date, no human cases related to this outbreak have been reported.</li> <li>● The occurrence of human A(H7) influenza cases has previously been documented in various parts of the World:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ A(H7N2) in the <a href="#">UK</a> (4 cases, 2007), in the <a href="#">USA</a> (2 cases, 2002-3)</li> <li>✓ A(H7N3) : in <a href="#">Canada</a> (2 cases, 2004), in the <a href="#">UK</a> (1 case, 2006)</li> <li>✓ A(H7N7) : in the <a href="#">Netherlands</a> (89 cases, 2003)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Map 1: The city of Guadalajara, Castilla-La Mancha, Spain.**



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

Area: World

Event: Pandemic A/H1N1/2009

### EpiSouth region

Considering that many countries have ceased individual case counting, the total number of confirmed cases of Pandemic A/H1N1/2009 is no longer representative of the evolution of the outbreak in countries with active community transmission. The number of deaths reflects the severity of the A/H1N1/2009 pandemic. **As of 13 October 2009**, a total of **100 deaths** among biologically confirmed A/H1N1/2009 cases have been reported in the EpiSouth region.

- 10 new deaths were registered since 06 October: 1 in **Egypt**, 7 in **Israel**, 1 in **Italy** and 1 in **Spain**.
  - **Italy** reports 368 new cases of A/H1N1/2009 (clinical definition) for week 40 (total as of 7 October = 10386).
  - In Mainland **France**, for week 41 (5-11 October), the incidence of influenza-like illness estimated by sentinel surveillance remains stable (189 cases per 100 000 inh) and above the epidemic threshold (108/100 000 inh.). The percentage of samples positive for A/H1N1/2009 remains low. The estimate of influenza A/H1N1/2009 consultations was 32 000 for week 41. During week 40, A/H1N1/2009 represented the great majority of circulating influenza viruses. Nevertheless, reference laboratories noted that circulation of other, non-influenza, respiratory viruses is ongoing.
  - For week 40, **Spain** reports moderate influenza activity. The global incidence for influenza-like illness (ILI) estimated is 95 cases/100.000 inh. (versus 78/100 000 the week before) corresponding to some 42 000 new cases.
  - For week 40, **Bulgaria** and **Romania** report low influenza activity, currently below epidemic thresholds but with an increasing trend. **Slovenia** reports a stable and low influenza activity.
  - In EpiSouth **North African countries (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia)** the situation is stable. Since the beginning of the epidemic, 309 confirmed cases have been reported. To date, no deaths have been recorded.
  - **Israel** reports moderate influenza activity. The decline observed in influenza-like illnesses in recent weeks continues.

### Global trends (outside the EpiSouth region)

- As of 13 October 2009, **4 699 deaths** related to A/H1N1/2009 have been reported **worldwide**.

The analysis of the various epidemiological and laboratory indicators since 07 October 2009 reflects the following trends:

- **Europe (non EpiSouth): 9 new deaths** were reported during week 40. **Ireland** is the only country reporting an intense and increasing influenza activity exceeding epidemic threshold for week 40. In **Wales** influenza activity is moderate and exceeds epidemic threshold. **Belgium** reports a moderate influenza activity within expected ranges for that time of the year. **Northern Ireland** and **Malta** report moderate influenza activity with a declining trend. 8 countries report low influenza activity (below epidemic thresholds) but with an increasing trend: **Austria, England, Hungary, Latvia, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, and Sweden**. 7 countries report stable, low influenza activity: **Czech Republic, Estonia, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Portugal and Scotland**. Around a quarter of samples tested among countries reporting to the EuroFlu network tested positive for influenza viruses. Of those, 95% were A/H1N1/2009.
- In **Russia**, influenza activity is weak and varies among regions.
- **Non-EpiSouth countries of the Middle-East** recorded 11 new deaths during week 40: 1 in **Iran**, 2 in **Oman**, 1 in **Saudi Arabia** and 5 in **Yemen**. To date, 141 A/H1N1/2009 related deaths have been reported in those countries.

- Differences are observed among countries of the **American continent**:
  - In **Mexico**: the new epidemic wave is more intense than the first one. A higher number of confirmed cases per day (600 versus 400 in April) is reported. The situation varies widely among the states, affecting mainly Distrito Federal, followed by Chiapas and Yucatan.
  - In the **United-States**: in most states, influenza activity remains important (twice the epidemic threshold), and continues to increase for the fifth consecutive week. In north-eastern States, the situation is stable or declining, and remains below seasonal rates.
  - In **Canada**: influenza activity is moderate but increasing since week 37 (7-13 September). In some western regions, the activity exceeds seasonal rates.
  - In **Central America**: influenza activity is weak to moderate, with a decreasing trend, except in **Belize** where the epidemic is increasing.
  - In **South America**: the epidemic is of weak intensity and overall decreasing.
  - In some of the **Caribbean** islands for which data are available, influenza activity is still high and continues to increase.
- In **Asia**, viral circulation remains weak and is overall stable in south eastern countries. In **Japan**, transmission remains moderate, over the epidemic threshold. In **Hong-Kong**, the epidemic starts to decrease. No data are available for **continental China** and **India**.
- In most of **Pacific countries and territories**, cases are reported sporadically. In **Australia** and **New Zeland**, the influenza epidemic continues to decrease.
- The number of reported cases in **Sub-Saharan countries** remains low. Influenza activity in **South Africa** is similar to previous years. Some sporadic cases of A/H1N1/2009 are reported.