

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, WPG 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°97

- **A(H5N1) Human influenza – Egypt**
- **A(H5N1) Avian influenza – Bangladesh, India, Israel, Vietnam**
- **“OUTSIDE” Events:**
 - **Nipah virus – Bangladesh**
- **“INSIDE” Events: none**

Location: Egypt

Event: A(H5N1) – Human

Comments

Egyptian health authorities reported 2 new confirmed human cases of avian influenza A(H5N1) this week:

- A 3 yrs old male from Asyut Governorate (map 1.), reported on 22 January 2010,
 - ✓ was hospitalized and received oseltamivir treatment,
 - ✓ he recovered.
 - ✓ Exposure to infected birds is suspected.
- A 45 yrs old male from Ash-Sharqia governorate (map 1.), reported on 26 January 2010,
 - ✓ presented symptoms on 12 January 2010,
 - ✓ was hospitalized and received oseltamivir treatment,
 - ✓ his health situation is stable,
 - ✓ had contact with suspect poultry.
- Since April 2006, Egypt has reported 94 confirmed human cases of avian influenza A(H5N1), 28 have been fatal.

Map 1. Asyut and Al-Sharqia governorates, Egypt.



- The occurrence of human cases of avian A(H5N1) in Egypt does not constitute an unexpected event.
- Human cases of A(H5N1) have continued to be reported in Egypt but fatality remains low.
- Since 01 January 2010, 4 cases have been reported. 1 has been fatal.
- To date, the available information does not indicate a change in the epidemiology of the virus.

Bangladesh

- On 22 January 2010, the ministry of health of Bangladesh reported to OIE clusters of highly pathogenic A(H5N1) in poultry in the district of Joypurhat (North West of the country).

India

- On 22 January 2010, Indian health authorities reported further clusters (in new areas) of highly pathogenic avian influenza A(H5N1) in poultry in West Bengal (cf [e-WEB n°96](#)).

Vietnam

- On 24 January 2010, Vietnamese health authorities reported to OIE, the detection of clusters of highly pathogenic A(H5N1) in poultry in the province of Ha Tinh (centre of the country).

Israel

- On 26 January 2010, local veterinary services reported to OIE an outbreak of highly pathogenic A(H5N1) in poultry in Ein Shemer, near Haifa (map 2).
- The disease was found in a large poultry farm. Further epidemiological investigations are ongoing.
- Control measures were taken (quarantine, zoning, movement control inside the country), and others are yet to be implemented (screening, culling, and disinfection of infected premises).

Map 2. Ein Shemer, near Haifa, Israel.



- The most recent outbreaks were reported:
 - on January 15 2010 in *West Bengal, India*,
 - on 27 December 2009 in *Vietnam*,
 - in September 2009 in *Bangladesh*.
- In *Israel*, The previous outbreak was reported in January 2008. It involved a single, small backyard pet-bird holding, in Benyamina, 8 km from the current outbreak.
- Available information does not suggest any changes in the epidemiology and transmission of the virus.

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

Location: Bangladesh

Event: Nipah virus

Comments

- On 19 January 2010, 3 deaths related to Nipah virus infections were reported in Bangladesh, in the province of Dhaka, district of Faridpur (map 3.).
- According to the institute for epidemiology disease control and research (IEDCR), fatalities were relatives, and had consumed dates juice contaminated by bats secretions.
- Further investigations are ongoing.

Map 3. District of Faridpur, Dhaka province, Bangladesh.



- Outbreaks of Nipah virus have repeatedly been described in Bangladesh and India between the months of January and May (cf [note Nipah in India and Bangladesh](#) and French epidemiological bulletin [BHI 83 in French](#)). The last outbreak in Bangladesh was reported in March 2008 ([BHI n°129](#)).
- This mode of transmission (food contamination by bats) has previously been described in Bangladesh.
- The information available does not exclude the occurrence of human-to-human transmission, among family or household contacts.