

Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever in Greece, 2008

Risk communication

Group 3

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- Determine the risk group
 - Population in Rhodope prefecture
 - Farmers, livestock workers, health care workers...
 - Recreational exposure
- Messenger – well known health care worker from the area (if possible) (doctor) to whom people trust. Optional – veterinarian or representative of local authorities (respected by the target population)

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- Means of communication
 - Local TV and radio stations
 - Local newspapers
 - Leaflets about the disease
 - Optional / internet – to be decided considering local settings

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- Message
 - What happened?
 - What kind of disease?
 - How many cases?
 - Any deaths?
 - Where? Specific location, if known.
 - What activities is health system implementing at the moment (investigation...)
 - Who is at risk?
 - People that spend time in the nature and have risk to be bitten by infected ticks or to be in a contact with blood or tissues of infected animals.
 - Unprotected health care workers that treat cases.

Group 3

- Message

- Mode of transmission?

- Tick bite
 - Contact with blood or body fluids of infected person or animal.

- Symptoms

- Fever, headache, back, joint and stomach pain, vomiting, red eyes, flushed face, red throat and jaundice
 - Incubation period 1-3 days (1-12) after the exposure

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- Message
 - How to prevent?
 - Use repellents containing DEET and cover skin (long sleeves, trousers...) while in nature.
 - Avoid contact with blood and body fluids without protection (gloves, + mask and eye protection in hospitals while treating patients)
 - If you are bitten by a tick, go to nearest health care facility where it will be removed properly.
 - Where to go in case you have symptoms and signs of the infection?
 - Refer to the nearest health care facility and mention that you have been exposed and how.