

No 83

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Avian influenza treatments identified

In a novel discovery, scientists have identified six potential therapeutics to treat the deadly H7N9 avian influenza. "The seriousness of the disease often results from the strength of immune response, rather than with the virus itself. Turning down that response, rather than attacking the virus, might be a better way to reduce that severity," explained Juliet Morrison from University of Washington, Seattle. [read more](#)

China: Bubonic plague in Gansu

A Chinese city has been sealed off and 151 people have been placed in quarantine since last week after a man died of bubonic plague, state media said. The 30,000 residents of Yumen, in the north-western province of Gansu, are not being allowed to leave, and police at roadblocks on the perimeter of the city are telling motorists to find alternative routes, China Central Television (CCTV) said. A 38-year-old man died last Wednesday, the report said, after he had been in contact with a dead marmot, a small furry animal related to the squirrel. No further plague cases have been reported. [read more](#)

India: Anthrax killed one in Odisha

One Jagabandhu Labara died of anthrax in Khadagpur village under Nandapur block on Wednesday. After consuming partially cooked meat at a feast in the village, he had taken ill. As Jagabandhu did not take the help of doctors, his condition deteriorated. Later, he was found to be suffering from anthrax by ICDS staff who shifted him to Koraput Hospital where he succumbed. Meanwhile, a team of doctors rushed to the village and provided medicines to eight other villagers who had also taken the meat in the feast. [read more](#)

India: Arunachal Pradesh sounds high alert after girl died

Arunachal Pradesh has sounded a high alert following the death of a 10-year-old girl and reports of 11 other persons being affected by Japanese Encephalitis in the state. Kiran Raji, a 10-year-old girl of Sippi village in Upper Subansiri district, who was admitted to Arunachal State Hospital here died on Thursday, state Epidemiologist Dr L Jampa told PTI on Saturday. The other affected persons include children in the age group of 1 to 14 years besides an 18-year-old teenager, he said in a statement. [read more](#)

Indonesia: Trash and rabies in Bali

The chief of the Livestock and Animal Health Office for Bali (Disnakeswan) for Bali, Putu Sumantra, sees the problem of trash management in Bali as one of the major obstacles to controlling rabies. Quoted by Metrobali.com, Sumantra said, "Trash that is strewn around becomes food for stray dogs allowing them to continue to exist in the community." Speaking

in Denpasar on Thursday, July 24, 2014, Sumantra said many of the stray dogs that escape mass vaccination program carried out by the government is due to the difficulties officials encounter in corralling stray dogs. The stray and semi-feral dogs found in most Balinese communities manage to live from trash left uncovered on the side of the road. [read more](#)

Republic of Korea: Outbreak of FMD in Gyeongsang

South Korea confirmed an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) Thursday for the first time in over three years. The confirmation came one day after a suspected case was reported at a local pig farm in Bian-myeon, Uiseong, North Gyeongsang Province, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. "A closed examination confirmed an outbreak of FMD at the farm," the ministry said in a short statement. [read more](#) The outbreak was reported to OIE on 24 July 2014. [read more](#)

Republic of Korea: Outbreak of H5N8 in Jeollanam

We have confirmation of a new case of bird flu in southern Korea signaling that efforts to contain an earlier outbreak have not been effective. Officials in Jeollanam-do province say they have confirmed the H5N8 strain of avian influenza at a duck farm in the southern county of Hampyeong. Quarantine officials say more than 40-thousand ducks have been slaughtered at the farm to prevent the virus from spreading. This comes just about a month after the government confirmed the virus in the city of Daegu and in Gangwon-do province. [read more](#)