

No 90

Tuesday, 16 September 2014

Publication: Occurrence and reassortment of avian influenza A (H7N9) viruses derived from coinfecting birds in China

Over the course of two waves of infection, H7N9 avian influenza A virus has caused 436 human infections and claimed 170 lives in China as of July 2014. To investigate the prevalence and genetic diversity of H7N9 we surveyed avian influenza viruses in poultry in Jiangsu province within the outbreak epicenter. We found frequent occurrence of H7N9/H9N2 co-infection in chickens. Molecular clock phylogenetic analysis confirms co-infection by H7N9/H9N2 viruses and also reveals that the identity of the H7N9 outbreak lineage is confounded by ongoing reassortment between outbreak viruses and diverse H9N2 viruses in domestic birds. Experimental inoculation of a co-infected sample in cell culture yielded two reassortant H7N9 strains with polymerase segments from the original H9N2 strain. Ongoing reassortment between the H7N9 outbreak lineage and diverse H9N2 viruses may generate new strains with the potential to infect humans, highlighting the need for continued viral surveillance in poultry and humans. [read more](#)

Bangladesh: Anthrax situation update

Information from the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) revealed that as of 7 September 2014, there were 220 confirmed anthrax cases in human reported from 7 upazilas of 4 districts including Meherpur (144 cases), Narayanganj (8), Shirajganj (42) and Tangail (26). [read more](#)

India: Rare case of rabies survivor

In a rare success, doctors from National Institute of Mental Health and Neurological Sciences (Nimhans), Bangalore, and the Army Command Hospital in Chandimandir Cantonment near here have successfully treated a 16-year-old boy suffering from rabies. The feat is rare since there have been only 14, including the boy, reported cases of rabies survivors in the world till date, Colonel F M H Ahmed, neurologist at Command Hospital, told Deccan Herald on Saturday. The boy, Hira Singh, was admitted to Military Hospital in May this year in a critical comatose state. He was bitten by a stray dog and was given four doses of anti-rabies vaccine. Eventually, he slipped into a coma, needed ventilator and airway support when brought to hospital with a diagnosis of rabies. [read more](#)

India: AES/JE situation update

According to the Directorate of National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme, Delhi there were approximately 6,730 AES/JE cases with 1,193 deaths reported from Assam, Bihar, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal during the period between 1 January to 27 August 2014. [read more](#)

Lao PDR: LPAI H5N6 in Luangprabang

An outbreak of LPAI H5N6 was reported by the Department of Livestock and Fisheries to OIE on 15 September 2014. The outbreak occurred on 14 July 2014 in a poultry farm in Viengsavanh, Luangprabang, which killed 2 birds on the farm. After confirmation the remaining 198 birds were culled and the outbreak was resolved on 28 July 2014. [read more](#)

Pakistan: Second case of CCHF in Karachi

The second Congo virus case of the year recently surfaced in the city. Luckily, the patient is said to be in a stable condition, The Express Tribune learnt on Monday. The patient who is admitted in the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC) is a 17-year-old student and a resident of Shah Faisal Colony. The boy was admitted to the JPMC on September 4. The laboratory tests, which were sent to the Aga Khan University Hospital, confirmed on September 6 that the patient had contracted the Congo virus. [read more](#)