

On 22.09.2008, the National Reference Laboratory reported the detection of West - Nile virus antibodies (IgM) in a serum sample and a cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) sample of an 19 years old male, temporary resident of Bucharest, hospitalized in the Infectious Diseases Institute "Matei Bals" in Bucharest.

Both samples were taken on 12.09.2008.

According to the EU case definition, the case was confirmed.

The patient is a temporary resident of Bucharest from April 2008 and he hasn't left the town since then. He lives near a lake and he was employed as a boatman by a firm that deals with freights.

He affirm multiple mosquito bites within the West Nile incubation period (between 3 and 15 days), both at his place of living ( a barrack ) and also near it, at his place of work. He didn't use any preventive measures against mosquito bites.

Measures taken:

- Epidemiologists from Public Health Authority of Bucharest announced the National Institute of Haematology about the case and didn't find out any evidence about the patient as being a blood donor.
- Health promotion activities were done with the patient.
- Public Health Authority of Bucharest requested information from the Sanitary Veterinarian Direction of Bucharest who was also informed about the human case.
- Bird and animal mortality rates for this area were not higher compared to data from previous years . No serological surveillance in birds and animals took place this year.
- Mosquito samples from the patient's place of living and work haven't been taken because of the low temperatures and no activity in mosquito population.
- Control activities against larvae have been done on 27, 28 and 30 of September, 2008, including for the lake water. The activities will be repeated against adult mosquitoes if temperatures will be higher and appropriate for this.

We attach a risk assessment for this event, performed by the epidemiologists of The Regional Institute of Public Health in Bucharest, based on the information provided by The Public Health Authority of Bucharest.

EWRS team Romania