

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

Regional Support Unit for South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (RSU-SAARC)

BANGLADESH

27 Oct 2015: Awareness on rabies infection underscored in Bogra

Residential Medical Officer of Mohammad Ali hospital has declared Bogra as hydrophobia-free-society creating large scale mass awareness on rabies infection to prevent the occurrences of hydrophobia in the society here in Bogra district as government is trying to drive all sorts of diseases by vaccine across the country. The concerned authority urged the need to make mass dog vaccination campaign a success to control of rabies which is very vital in the present context not only in Bogra district but also across the country simultaneously driving the curable disease out from last few years. Lack of awareness, coordination and requisite information and limitation of logistics have been identified as major challenges towards preventing the diseases as well as there is no alternative to face the existing challenges collectively. [read more](#)

BHUTAN

27 Oct 2015: One Health strategic plan for effective zoonosis prevention

The Agriculture Ministry is awaiting a final endorsement from the government on the Bhutan One Health Strategic Plan 2016-2020. The plan is a five-year vision document that will guide all sectors and agencies involved in preparedness and prevention of zoonosis and other public health risks. The document is also expected to outline strategies and action activities for each stakeholder. Although a disease surveillance system is already in place in each sectors there was no meeting point in the system. One health strategy is expected to strengthen the surveillance system where all information can be shared in real time. Other major strategies include, disease outbreak preparedness and response, capacity building, collaborative research, communication and advocacy. The wildlife and environment strategy is considered important considering the increasing instances of human coming in conflict with wildlife, which is a major source of diseases. [read more](#)

INDIA

29 Oct 2015: Man dies of Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever in Jamnagar, Gujarat

The blood sample of a man who died of high fever on October 20 at the Jamnagar Civil Hospital, was found positive for the Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF) virus, commonly known as Congo fever. The deceased, a resident of Rajgor street in Jamnagar, was admitted to the civil hospital with high fever on October 20 morning. He had been complaining of severe headache since the past two days. [read more](#)

29 Oct 2015: Plea to promote FMD vaccination drive in Kozhikode district, Kerala

The vaccination for foot and mouth disease (FMD) is in no way harmful to the livestock contrary to the negative publicity it has received of late, District Animal Husbandry Officer has said. In a press note issued in the backdrop of a recent controversy that a cow at Koyilandy was in critical condition after it was vaccinated, the veterinarian explained that the cow's death was not connected to the vaccination. An FMD control programme is being implemented in Kozhikode district since October 7 and will conclude on November 4. The district has had most number of vaccinations in the State as part of the programme, with over 5,500 heads of cattle vaccinated every day. Around 70,000 animals have been vaccinated in the district so far under the programme and none of them have had any problems, he said. [read more](#)

27 Oct 2015: Aged man dies of rabies in Tamil Nadu

A 76-year-old man of Vellanchaettipalayam, near Karumathampatty, who was bitten by a rabid dog died at the Coimbatore Medical College Hospital (CMCH) on Sunday. The police said that the man was sleeping in front of his house on October 15 when the dog bit him on his face. [read more](#)

OTHERS

16 Oct 2015: Serological evidence of MERS-CoV antibodies in dromedary camels in Laikipia County, Kenya

In Kenya, where no human MERS cases have been reported, our survey of 335 dromedary camels, representing nine herds in Laikipia County, showed a high seroprevalence (46.9%) to MERS-CoV antibodies. Between herd differences were present (14.3%– 82.9%), but was not related to management type or herd isolation. The seroprevalence across ages in combination with herds categorized as having no or little contact with external herds (e.g., high isolation type), suggests that Laikipia camels continue to be exposed to MERS-CoV or a closely related virus. Further research should focus on identifying similarity between MERS-CoV viral isolates in Kenya and clinical isolates from the Middle East and elsewhere. [read more](#)