

USACHPPM
HEALTH INFORMATION OPERATIONS (HIO) UPDATE
13 June 2002

The HIO Weekly Update provides information regarding global medical and veterinary issues of interest to the United States (US) Army. The weekly update does not attempt to analyze the information regarding potential strategic or tactical impact to the US Army and as such, should not be regarded as a medical intelligence product. Medical intelligence products are available at <http://mic.afmic.detrick.army.mil/>. The information in the HIO Weekly Update should provide an increased awareness of current and emerging health-related issues.

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HOT ISSUES

Anthrax Mortality Study - Brentwood Postal Employees

On 6 June, the [CDC](#) reported preliminary results in its investigation of deaths that have occurred over the past nine months among US Postal Service employees who were potentially exposed to *Bacillus anthracis* (anthrax) in the fall of 2001. In addition to the two Brentwood postal employees who died from inhalation anthrax last fall, eight other Brentwood postal employees have died since September 2001. A review of their death certificates found that: (1) four people died from heart disease; (2) two people died from malignant neoplasms (cancer); (3) one person died due to cerebrovascular disease (stroke); and (4) one person has not had a cause of death determination. The numbers of death appear to be no different that would be expected during a typical year, and the cause of death are consistent with expected causes based on data of deaths in the US. The report is at <http://www.cdc.gov/od/oc/media/pressrel/fs020606.htm>.

Bioterrorism Plans - [DHHS](#)

On 6 June, the DHHS announced 24 states and two cities have had their bioterrorism plans fully approved allowing them access to the remaining 80% of grant money allocated to strengthen preparedness. The bioterrorism plans were required to meet 17 critical benchmarks for public health and hospital preparedness for full approval. The DHHS withheld some funds for 24 states and one city because the plans require further review or refinement of a portion of the plan. Two states, Washington DC, and all eight US territories were given an extension for their plans. The 17 critical benchmarks are detailed at <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2002pres/20020606a.html>. Information on each state is available at <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2002pres/20020606b.html>.

Disability Compensation Claims – Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA)

On 7 June, the Newport News Daily Press reported that the VA expects disability compensation claims from military retirees to soar if Congress, later this year, passes a law to restore full retired pay to career retirees with VA disability ratings of 60% or higher. According to the report, about one in three military members receive VA disability compensation for injuries or illnesses tied to their service. Under the new legislation, that number is expected to double in five years so that 70% of two million military retirees could be drawing some tax-free disability pay from the VA. The report is at <http://ebird.dtic.mil/Jun2002/s20020607expects.htm> (requires registration).

GeneXpert[®] Sample Preparation Technology - Cepheid

On 6 June, Cepheid announced the issuance of a US patent for a cartridge-based automated preparation of biological samples in the company's GeneXpert DNA detection system. The patent covers a unique filtration and lysis method for releasing DNA from pathogenic organisms in seconds, which substantially reduces the total time for analysis. Cepheid's GeneXpert is expected to be commercially available by mid-

2003 and is designed to deliver DNA test results from a sample in as little as 30 minutes. Cepheid's US Army contract has been extended for GeneXpert. The report is at <http://www.cepheid.com/pages/press/020606.html>.

Herbal Medicine Safety - [UK](#)

On 5 June, the California Department of Health Services issued a warning to consumers about seven herbal dietary supplements because they contain undeclared prescription drug ingredients that could cause serious health effects if not taken under medical supervision: Arthrin, HepaStat, Neutralis, OA Plus, Osporo, Poena, RA Spes.. On 28 May, the UK's National Health Service launched an information website on the safety of herbal medicines. The site will include issues such as: (1) details of herbal remedies found to be interacting with other medicines; (2) concerns raised over the inherent safety of an ingredient; (3) alerts over poor quality controls in parts of the unlicensed herbal remedy sector; and (4) contamination of herbal medicines with heavy metals or the illegal inclusion of prescription-only medicines. The website is at <http://www.mca.gov.uk/ourwork/licensingmeds/herbalmeds/herbalsafety.htm>.

Homeland Security Department Proposed - White House

On 6 June, President Bush asked Congress to create the Department of Homeland Security as a new cabinet position with the mission to protect the American homeland and recommended the new department be up and running by the end of 2002. The proposed department would cover four major areas: border and transportation security, emergency preparedness and response; chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear countermeasures; and information analysis and infrastructure protection. The DoD has already shifted resources to defend the homeland with the creation of the US Northern Command, which will begin operations on 1 October. The report is at http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Jun2002/n06062002_200206066.html.

Monkeypox – Potential as Bioweapon

On 9 June, the United Press International reported that scientists and former UN weapons inspectors told them that the Russians worked with monkeypox in their bioweapons program and it is possible that terrorists could use it in a biological attack. Monkeypox, which causes symptoms similar to but less severe than smallpox, is not known to exist outside of Africa. According to the report, monkeypox, unlike camelpox, causes mortality in humans, and the incidence of human infections is on the rise in central and western Africa. The WHO attributes the rise in incidence of monkeypox to discontinuation of the smallpox vaccine, which provides protection against monkeypox and camelpox. The last outbreak of monkeypox in Africa was about six months ago according to the report. The report is at <http://www.upi.com/view.cfm?StoryID=07062002-064019-1942r>.

Potassium Iodide – Internet Sales

On 13 June, the Associated Press reported that one Internet site, NukePills.com, reported orders for 10,000 packs of potassium iodide pills on Monday alone. The orders were likely in response to the capture of a terrorist who was allegedly plotting to build and detonate a radioactive dispersal device (see next paragraph). FDA-approved potassium iodide is sold without a prescription for about \$1 per pill. According to the report, overdoses of potassium iodide can be dangerous and allergic reactions, including nausea or rashes, are possible. The report is at http://webcenter.newssearch.netscape.com/aolns_display.adp?key=200206111705000159167_aolns.src.

Radioactive Dispersal Device Plans – US

On 10 June, the [AFPS](#) reported that the [DoD](#) is now holding a terrorist who allegedly was plotting to build and detonate a radioactive dispersal device, “dirty bomb,” in the US, possibly in the Washington DC area. Pentagon officials described the dirty bomb as one made of radiological materials such as spent nuclear fuel rods and conventional explosives. The bomb’s blast effects are secondary to the spread of radiation over a wide area. According to a CNN report, the area struck would be off-limits for at least several months during cleanup efforts. The reports are at <http://www.cnn.com/2002/US/06/10/dirty.bomb.suspect/index.html> and http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Jun2002/n06102002_200206103.html.

Radiological Detection Efforts – US Customs Service

On 3 June, CNN reported that a new, handheld, radiation detector is being distributed to inspectors around the country. According to the report about 4,000 are in use and another 4,000 have been ordered. US Custom officials search one to two percent of the 11 million containers shipped into the US each year. Customs analysts and computers sift through manifests and itineraries and separate out high-risk cargo. The cargo is then scanned with a number of high-tech devices, including gamma ray detectors and portable X-ray machines. The inspectors also have mobile labs, which identifies if a suspicious substance is a nuclear, chemical, or biological material. The report is at <http://www.cnn.com/2002/US/06/03/customs.antiterror/index.html>.

Respirator Standards Development – [NIOSH](#)

NIOSH, the US Army Soldier Biological and Chemical Command, and the National Institute for Standards and Technology will conduct a public stakeholder meeting 18-19 June to discuss appropriate standards and testing processes for full-facepiece air-purifying respirators suitable for use by first responders against chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear agents. Prior to and following the meeting, links to concept papers will be posted at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/cbrnstdpg.html>.

Smallpox Vaccination Forums – [CDC](#)

On 7 June, the CDC held a smallpox vaccination forum at the Mount Sinai Medical Center in Manhattan. According to the *New York Times*, a number of speakers at the forum stated that smallpox vaccine should be made available to certain groups of health care workers like those in emergency rooms before a bioterrorist attack. The current recommendation is that vaccine be given just to the small number of scientists and lab workers who work with smallpox and closely related viruses. The report is at <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/06/07/health/07SMAL.html> (requires free registration).

Suicide - Risk Factors

On 8 June, the [BMJ](#) reported in a case-control study that visual impairment, neurological disorders, and malignant disease were associated with an increased risk for suicide in elderly people (≥ 65 years of age). Serious physical illness in any organ category was an independent risk factor for suicide in the multivariate regression model. The study used records from 46 men and 39 women who had committed suicide and living control participants from the tax register (84 men, 69 women). The report is at <http://bmj.com/cgi/content/full/324/7350/1355>.

USCENTCOM

Malaria - Afghanistan

On 6 June, [AFMIC](#) reported that four cases of malaria (two vivax and two unspecified) were diagnosed in allied service members who are being treated in Kabul, Afghanistan. The use of malaria prophylaxis was reportedly intermittent. The report is at <http://mic.afmic.detrick.army.mil/> (requires registration).

Nerve Gas Traces - Uzbekistan

On 9 June, the British Broadcasting Council (BBC) reported that a team conducting a routine inspection detected traces of nerve agents and mustard gas in three areas of Karshi Khanabad, a US base in Uzbekistan. The three sites included a bunker at the edge of the base; a hangar where a headquarters had been set up; and an unstaffed maintenance facility. All troops have been moved away from the sites, and no symptoms of exposure have been reported. Officials believe the traces may have come from chemical weapons believed to have been stored there when it was a Soviet base. Further tests are being performed to determine the origin and quantity. The report is at http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/world/asia-pacific/newsid_2034000/2034163.stm.

Norwalk-Like Virus (NLV) Outbreak in [UK](#) Military Personnel - Afghanistan

On 7 June, the [CDC](#) reported that an outbreak of NLV occurred in 29 British soldiers and field hospital staff in Afghanistan during 13-19 May. The first three patients presented with severe acute illness characterized by headache, neck stiffness,

photophobia, obtundation, and gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms. The third patient's illness was complicated by disseminated intravascular coagulation. Two of these patients required ventilatory support. The hospital was closed to all but patients with GI symptoms because the cause of the illness was unknown. In the interim, the German hospital in Kabul and the US hospital in Bagram provided medical cover for UK troops deployed in Afghanistan. One patient was evacuated to a US military hospital in Germany, and 10 were evacuated to England. Two medical staff members, who treated the patients on the flight to England and a third contact at the hospital in England, subsequently developed gastroenteritis and were hospitalized for several days. All patients recovered and were discharged. The field hospital has since reopened with enhanced infection control precautions. Outbreaks of NLV-associated GI illness are common in military settings. NLVs were the most common cause of disability among soldiers in Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. NLVs are extremely contagious because of their low infectious dose (<100 viral particles), prolonged asymptomatic shedding (up to two weeks after recovery), ability to resist chlorination (10 ppm chlorine), and stability in the environment (stable with freezing and at 140°F). Severe illness with NLVs has been associated with group O blood phenotype. The report is at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5122a1.htm>.

USEUCOM

African Trypanosomiasis - Sub-Saharan Africa

On 7 June, the [UN OCHA](#) announced that four international organizations have called for a more integrated approach to control the tsetse fly, which transmits sleeping sickness to humans and causes Nagana in livestock. This disease threat is present in 37 sub-Saharan countries where 50 million people and 48 million cattle are at risk. Three severe epidemics have occurred in Africa during the last century with the latest one ongoing since 1970. The report is <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=28217>.

Chemical Terrorism Alert System – Europe

On 4 June, the [WHO](#) reported that the WHO European Region and other international organizations met and committed themselves to establishing: (1) an alert and response system for chemical incidents, (2) a strategy and program for upgrading communication with the public, and (3) an international system to classify incidents. The participants also agreed to define the role and functions of poison control centers in preparedness and response. According to the report, chemical incidents of some kind occur every month, e.g., in the previous six-month period for which data was available, 704 chemical incidents took place in the [UK](#), three of which affected over 50 people. Terrorism involving chemicals could not only cause explosions but could affect the public through food, air, and other routes. The report is at http://www.who.dk/eprise/main/who/mediacentre/pr/20020603_2.

Ebola – Republic of the Congo

On 11 June, ProMED-mail reported that medical officials were investigating a suspected Ebola outbreak in which five people were dead in the northern jungle area of the Cuvette-Ouest Province in the Republic of the Congo. The report is at http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:254271::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1010,18472.

Food Insecurity - Southern Africa

On 5 and 6 June, the BBC reported that floods and drought are in part responsible for food shortages that could affect up to 15 million people in six countries across Southern Africa. The worst affected countries are Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. States of emergency or famine have been declared in Lesotho, Zambia, and Malawi, the worst affected country in which three million face starvation and hundreds have already died. The region has been devastated by HIV/AIDS, which when combined with malnutrition will likely contribute to increased levels of susceptibility to infectious diseases, e.g., the current cholera epidemic in Malawi is the worst in its history. The reports are at http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/world/africa/newsid_2004000/2004369.stm and http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/world/africa/newsid_2027000/2027079.stm.

Surplus Skin for Bioweapons Research – UK

On 7 June, the NewScientist.com reported that patients undergoing reductive surgery at a healthcare trust in the west of England are being asked to donate surplus skin for biochemical weapons research at the Government's Defence [sic] Science and Technology Laboratory in Porton Down. The epidermal membranes are used in various in-vitro experiments, such as looking at the rate of diffusion of chemical agents across the skin and developed barrier creams. The report is at <http://www.newscientist.com/news/news.jsp?id=ns99992376>.

USJFCOM

Americans with Disabilities Act – US Supreme Court

On 10 June, USA Today reported that the US Supreme Court had ruled that the Americans with Disabilities Act does not entitle people to jobs that might jeopardize their health. According to the report, the court rejected arguments from a man who argued that he should be able to decide for himself whether to take the risk of working in an oil refinery, where chemicals might aggravate his liver ailment. The case was considered a major victory for employers, who argued that they could be forced to hire people with grave illnesses or debilitations, and then face possible lawsuits if those workers were further harmed or died on the job. The case stemmed from a maintenance worker who worked as a contractor for Chevron for more than 20 years, but was found to have hepatitis C after an employment physical required for a permanent Chevron position.

Chevron subsequently denied employment and asked the contractor to fire or reassign the employee. The employee was reportedly fired. The report is at <http://www.usatoday.com/money/general/2002/06/10/scotus-ada.htm>.

Asthma Guidelines – [NIH](#)

On 10 June, the NIH reported that the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) had issued an update of selected topics in the Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma. The guidelines update now recommend inhaled corticosteroids as the preferred first-line therapy for children and adults with persistent asthma and modifies specific treatment recommendations at each step in the “step-wise” approach to asthma management. A link to the executive summary of the NAEPP Expert Panel Report is at <http://www.nih.gov/news/pr/jun2002/nhlbi-10.htm>.

Diesel Engine Health Concerns – [EPA](#)

On 7 June, the EPA and the Office of Management and Budget jointly released a statement that decreasing pollution from diesel-powered non-road vehicles and equipment should be a top environmental priority. According to the report, non-road vehicles, such as bulldozers and portable generators, emit significant amounts of fine particles and nitrogen oxides, which are associated with a variety of adverse health effects, including 8,500 premature deaths a year and health care costs totaling an estimated \$67 billion per year. The report stated that there are currently several million of these engines in use in the US primarily in the construction, mining, farming, and airport service sectors. The report is at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/b1ab9f485b098972852562e7004dc686/9d9b949bc142873385256bd1007382e4?OpenDocument>.

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome – Arizona, Colorado, and Utah

In early June, Arizona, Colorado, and Utah announced their first cases of HPS. No information was provided regarding the case in Arizona. On 9 June, the Desert News reported that a 41-year old woman was admitted to the hospital on 9 June for flu-like symptoms and had died five hours later. In Colorado a 64-year-old Gunnison County man was hospitalized on 28 May and is now recovering. According to the report HPS is a respiratory disease that infect humans when they inhale dirt and dust contaminated with deer mice urine and feces. The case fatality rate can be up to 30%. There were no HPS cases in Colorado in 2001, but there were eight cases, including three deaths, in 2000. One case of HPS was reported in Arizona last year. The reports are at <http://www.hs.state.az.us/news/2002-phs/hantavirus2002.htm>, <http://www.deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,405010462,00.html>, and <http://www.cdphs.state.co.us/release/2002/060302.html>.

Influenza B – Texas

On 6 June, the Texas Department of Health reported that Hong Kong type B has caused late-season flu illnesses in Texas and several other states in recent weeks. The latest case of Hong Kong flu in Texas was confirmed on 28 May with no cases confirmed yet for June. According to the report, the Hong Kong strain has been circulating in Southeast Asia and other areas and will be covered by the 2002-03 influenza vaccine. The report is at http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/news/b_new419.htm.

Kidney Dialysis and Algal Blooms – Canada

On 3 June, Health Canada announced that it is seeking to ensure that dialysis centers check whether they receive water from a surface water supply prone to blooms of blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) during the summer months. These blooms may release natural toxins into surface waters. The report also recommended dialysis centers or patients using home dialysis units living in areas prone to these blooms should ensure that the water used for dialysis is appropriate. The report is at http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pphb-dgspsp/bid-bmi/dsd-dsm/nb-ab/2002/nb2302_e.html.

Lotronex - [FDA](#) Approval with Restrictions

On 7 June, the FDA announced the approval of Lotronex (alosetron hydrochloride) with restrictions. The indication has been narrowed to be only for treatment of women with severe, diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) who have failed to respond to conventional IBS therapy. The marketing of Lotronex is being restricted because serious and unpredictable gastrointestinal adverse events, including some that resulted in death, were reported in association with its use when it was previously marketed. The manufacturer, GlaxoSmithKline, will be implementing a risk management program to enroll physicians who wish to prescribe Lotronex. The report is at <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2002/NEW00814.html>.

Potassium Iodide Pills – New York

On 13 June, the Associated Press reported that West Chester County health officials would distribute potassium iodide pills on the first three Saturdays in June to residents near the Indian Point nuclear power plant just north of New York City to protect against any release of radioactive gases. Potassium iodide can help prevent thyroid cancer by blocking the absorption of radioactive iodide, which is one of several gases that could be potentially released in a radiological emergency. The report is at http://webcenter.newssearch.netscape.com/aolns_display.adp?key=200206081635000167051_aolns.src.

Rabies in a Beaver - Florida

On 7 June, the [CDC](#) reported the first finding of rabies in a beaver in Florida. The beaver exhibited aggressive behavior by charging canoes and kayaks. While rodents

are not a wildlife reservoir for rabies virus and no rabies transmission from rodents to humans has been documented, reported cases of rabies in rodents have been increasing in the US from 97 cases during 1971-84 to an average of 52 cases per year during 1995-2000. This trend is primarily due to an increase in cases among large rodents, e.g., woodchucks and beavers, with most cases occurring the eastern states, where raccoon rabies epizootic has been documented. Any mammal, including large rodents, exhibiting unusual behavior in an area where rabies is endemic should be reported to preventive medicine or public health officials. The report is at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5122a3.htm>.

Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV7) Shortage – US

On 6 June, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) reported that the national PCV7 shortage continues and vaccine availability has recently become very sporadic with over half of the states with no doses available for distribution. The MDPH reports that the PCV7 supply may be improved by July, but Oklahoma health officials previously predicted late 2002. The reports are at <http://www.state.ma.us/dph/cdc/epii/imm/PCV7Shortage2-02.pdf> and <http://www.health.state.ok.us/program/imm/vaccineshortages05-02-02.htm>.

Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Screening – [FDA](#)

On 6 June, ABC News reported that the FDA recently approved ThinPrep to screen for chlamydia and gonorrhea. With ThinPrep, a cervical swab is placed into a preservative solution that allows the sample to be checked for cervical cancer and now using a genetic test to detect traces of chlamydia or gonorrhea. The approval comes nearly a year after the [CDC](#) recommended routine screening of all sexually active young women for chlamydia, the most common bacterial STD. ThinPrep, a fairly new type of Pap smear, had already been approved to detect the sexually transmitted human papilloma virus that causes most cervical cancer. The report is at http://abcnews.go.com/sections/living/DailyNews/WIRE_new_paptest020606.html.

Veterinarians - US Gender Demographics

On 9 June, the *New York Times* reported most students at veterinary schools now are women, and by 2005, women will become the majority in the profession per the [AVMA](#). The number of female veterinarians in the US has more than doubled since 1991 while the number of male veterinarians has fallen 15 percent. The report is at <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/06/09/science/09VET.html?todayshadlines> (requires free registration).

Water Safety Security – [EPA](#)

On 7 June, the EPA announced the dissemination of the first of 400 water security grants to help conduct water security planning. EPA is working with states, tribes and appropriate organizations to further develop and disseminate tools and support security

efforts at small and medium drinking water and wastewater systems. The report is at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/b1ab9f485b098972852562e7004dc686/c30e06aa1a5ac2e185256bd1005243aa?OpenDocument>.

USPACOM

Dengue Fever - New Caledonia

On 6 June, [AFMIC](http://mic.afmic.detrick.army.mil/) reported the first cases of locally transmitted dengue fever in New Caledonia where 41 cases have occurred since April 2002. The report is at <http://mic.afmic.detrick.army.mil/> (requires registration).

Mercury in Whalemeat – Japan

On 6 June, the NewScientist.com reported that tests on whalemeat for sale in Japan revealed two of 26 liver samples contained over 1,970 micrograms of mercury per gram of liver. This is reportedly over 5,000 times the Japanese government's limit for mercury contamination, which is 0.4 micrograms per gram. The researchers report that at these concentrations, a 132-lb adult eating 0.15 grams of liver would exceed the weekly mercury intake considered safe by the WHO. The researchers called on the government to impose tighter regulations on the consumption of whale organs. The report is at <http://www.newscientist.com/news/news.jsp?id=ns99992362>.

Spray-on Drugs – Australia

On 11 June, the News.com.au reported that a new generation of spray-on drugs is on the horizon following successful human tests in Melbourne. Researchers demonstrated that they could deliver hormone replacement therapy using the unique spray method. The system reportedly works by spraying a metered dose about the size of a 50-cent coin on the patient's arm. The liquid, which is mixed with a special enhancer, is absorbed into the skin in less than a minute and is then slowly absorbed into the bloodstream. A company called Acrux has been set up to develop the technology for chronic pain relief in cancer sufferers, contraceptives, nicotine replacement, travel sickness, and migraine drugs. The report is at http://news.com.au/common/story_page/0,4057,4487079%5E2862,00.html.

USSOUTHCOM

Dengue Integrated Strategy – [PAHO](#)

The PAHO recently announced that member states have called for a ten-point integrated strategy for dengue prevention and control in response to the increasing incidence of dengue and dengue hemorrhagic fever in the Americas. The ten points include (1) integrated epidemiological and entomological surveillance, (2) intersectoral actions between health, environment, education, and industry/commerce, (3) community participation, (4) environmental management, (5) patient care within and

outside the health system, (6) case reporting, (7) incorporation of dengue/health into formal education programs, (8) critical analysis of the use and function of insecticides, (9) formal health training of professionals in the medical and social areas, and (10) emergency preparedness to establish mechanisms and plans for outbreaks. The report is at <http://www.paho.org/English/HCP/HCT/VBD/presentation-dengue-americas.ppt>.

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) – Argentina

On 7 June, the [OIE](#) reported that veterinary officials had found buccal lesions consistent with FMD in 55 calves out of 217 bovines from a herd in Buenos Aires during 30-31 May. Initial tests were negative, but cell culture investigations are pending. The investigation is continuing with quarantine and movement controls inside the country initiated. The report is at http://www.oie.int/eng/info/hebdo/AIS_68.HTM - Sec4.

Please contact the below-listed POC for suggested improvements and/or comments regarding this report. This report is also available on the USACHPPM website at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/Hiupdate/>.

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ACRONYMNS

ACIP - Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
AFMIC - Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center
AFPS – American Forces Press Service
AGID - Agar Gel Immunodiffusion
AVIP - Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program
AVMA - American Veterinary Medical Association
BMJ - British Medical Journal
BSE – Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDR – Communicable Disease Report (England)
DARPA – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the central research/development organization for the DoD
DHHS – Department of Health and Human Services
DoD - Department of Defense
DOE – Department of Energy
DOS – Department of State
DOT – Department of Transportation
EISS – European Influenza Surveillance Scheme
ELISA - Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
ESSENCE – Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics
FDA – Food and Drug Administration
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
FMD – Foot and Mouth Disease
FSIS – Food Safety Inspection Service
GAO – US General Accounting Office
HIV/AIDS – Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
IAEA - International Atomic Energy Agency
IDP – Internally Displaced Persons
ICRC – International Committee of the Red Cross
IRCS – International Red Cross Society'
MOU - Memorandum of Understanding
MSDS - Material Safety Data Sheet
NAS – National Academy of Sciences
NGO - Non-Governmental Organization
NIH – National Institutes of Health
NIOSH – National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NRC – Nuclear Regulatory Commission
OCHA - Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OIE – World Organisation [sic] for Animal Health
OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PAHO - Pan American Health Organization
PCR – Polymerase Chain Reaction
PPE - Personal Protective Equipment
TB – Tuberculosis
UK – United Kingdom – England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales
UN – United Nations
UNHCR – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
USAID - United States Agency for International Development
USAMRIID - United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases
USDA – United States Department of Agriculture
USPS - United States Postal Service
vCJD - variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease
VOA – Voice of America, an international multimedia broadcasting service funded by the US Government
WHO – World Health Organization
WMD - Weapons of Mass Destruction