



CLINICIAN UPDATE, August 31, 2005

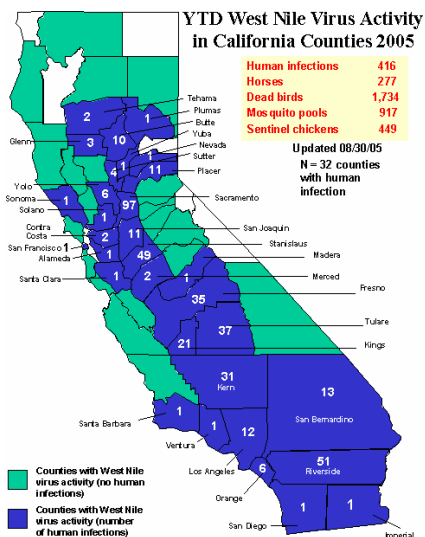
THE WEST NILE FILE



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West Nile Virus (WNV) infections continue to be detected throughout California. Consider WNV infection in your patients with aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, acute flaccid paralysis or prolonged fever (≥ 7 days) and send serology (IgM, IgG) for WNV.

- **Clinical trials** are available for treatment of West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease (WNND); for more information, please see www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/wnv/WNVtrials.pdf.
- **Pregnant women** who develop illness consistent with WNV infection should be tested for WNV and enrolled in the CDC pregnancy registry, which will provide free testing for the infant and will follow-up the infant for any congenital anomalies or developmental problems. For more information and for guidelines on the evaluation of infants born to women infected with WNV during pregnancy, see <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5307a4.htm>.
- **Asymptomatic blood donors** may be diagnosed with WNV infection from nucleic acid amplification tests done at the time of donation. These donors will be followed up for signs/symptoms of infection. Ask your WNV patients about blood donation in the 14 days prior to onset and report any positives to the blood collection facility. For recent articles reviewing WNV testing of the blood supply, see <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/abstract/353/5/451> and <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/abstract/353/5/460> (New England Journal of Medicine subscription required).



Recommended Resources

OC Public Health: www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/wnv
 OC Vector Control: www.ocvcd.org or 714-971-2421
 California: www.westnile.ca.gov or 1-877-WNV-BIRD
 USA: www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile

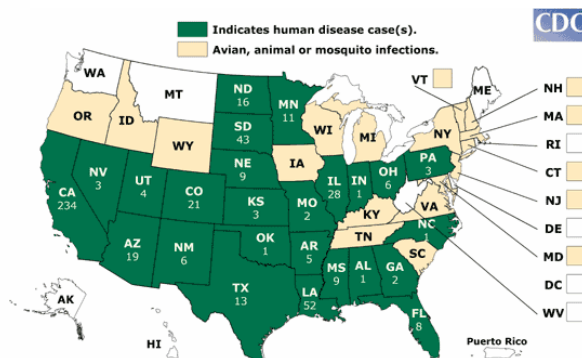
West Nile Virus — Orange County 2005

- There have been 6 WNV infections reported in Orange County (2 WNF, 3 WNND, and 1 asymptomatic blood donor).
- To report dead birds, contact Orange County Vector Control at 714-971-2421 X117.

West Nile Virus — California and US 2005

- As of August 30, 2005, 416 human WNV infections have been reported in California. Of the 383 symptomatic cases, 127 (33%) had WNND, 223 (58%) had WNF, and 33 (9%) were unspecified. The median age for all symptomatic cases where data is available is 50 years (range, 2-93 years). Fifty-eight percent of the cases are male.
- There have been 8 WNV-related fatalities this year in California.
- 501 human WNV cases from 25 states had been reported to the CDC as of August 23, 2005.

2005 West Nile Virus Activity in the US (Reported to CDC as of August 23, 2005)



If you have any comments about the flyer, contact Kirsten Melbye or Sandra Nutter at (714) 834-8180. To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.