



CLINICIAN UPDATE, July 21, 2006

THE WEST NILE FILE

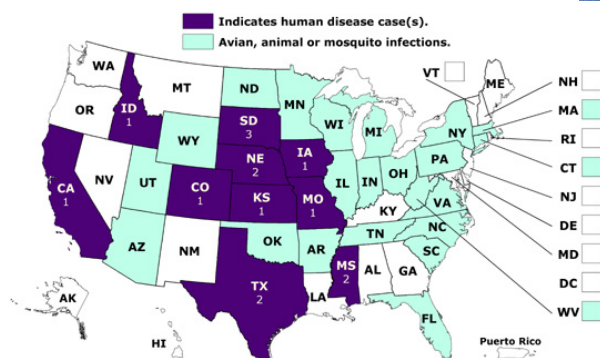


Orange County Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment, 1719 W. 17th St. Santa Ana, CA 92706, (714) 834-8180

Birds have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) in Orange County this year. Human cases are expected at any time. Consider WNV infection in your patients with aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, or prolonged fever (≥ 7 days) and submit serology for WNV testing.

- **Additional WNV cases have been reported in California.** Five human WNV cases have been identified from the following counties this year: Kern (2), Stanislaus (1), San Joaquin (1), and Sutter (1). The individuals from San Joaquin County and Kern County developed West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease (WNND). The individual from Sutter County was initially identified as an asymptomatic blood donor who later developed symptoms consistent with West Nile Fever (WNF).
- **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.
- **WNV infection [including WNF, WNND, and asymptomatic blood donation]** is a reportable disease and should be reported to OC Epidemiology by phone 714-834-8180 or fax 714-834-8196 within one working day. Aseptic meningitis and encephalitis of any etiology are also reportable diseases and should be reported within the same timeframe.

2006 West Nile Virus Activity in the US
(Reported to CDC as of July 18, 2006)



Asymptomatic blood donors have been identified in Idaho, Colorado, South Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, Iowa, and Kentucky, since July 18, 2006.

2006 WNV – Orange County, California, & U.S.

- There have been no human cases in **Orange County**
- Four individuals have been confirmed with WNV infections in **California** this week, bringing the total number of cases to five.
- The first WNV equine cases of the year have been reported in Merced County and Tulare County.
- 26 counties have reported WNV activity in California. 151 dead birds have tested positive for WNV from 21 counties. 62 mosquito samples have tested positive in 14 counties for WNV. 7 chickens from 2 counties were WNV positive. Visit: <http://www.westnile.ca.gov/>.
- 15 Human cases have been reported in the **United States** from California, Idaho and much of the Central United States as of July 18th.

Educate your patients, friends and family about WNV prevention -- avoiding mosquito bites:

- Eliminate standing water on your property as this is where mosquitoes breed. Drain pots, unclog gutters, and keep swimming pools clean and chlorinated or drained and covered.
- Make sure that door and window screens are in good condition to keep the mosquitoes out.
- When outdoors, use an insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Always follow the product directions on the label.
- For more information about prevention, visit www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/wnv/Repellent.pdf.

Recommended Resources

Orange County Health Care Agency:
www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/wnv

Orange County Vector Control District:
www.ocvcd.org or Ph: 714-971-2421
To report dead birds: X117

California Department of Health Services:
www.westnile.ca.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile

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