



CLINICIAN UPDATE, September 30, 2005

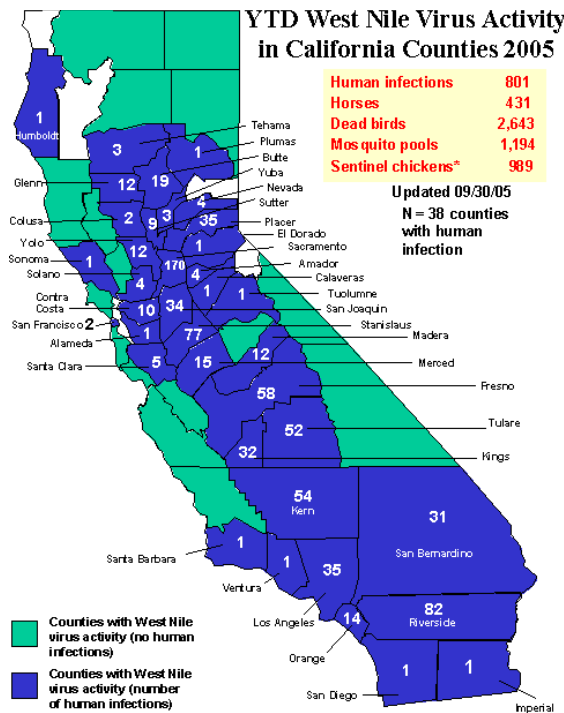
THE WEST NILE FILE



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Last year, WNV activity peaked in August and September but continued through October. 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.

- **WNV Testing:** Serology may not be positive when symptoms first occur. Repeat serology may be indicated if no other diagnosis is established and initial testing was done in the first 10 days after onset of symptoms. Closely related viruses such as St. Louis encephalitis, dengue and other flaviviruses may cross react with WNV.
- **Prevention:** A recent study in *Emerging Infectious Diseases* found that those who practiced two or more protective behavior traits had almost a 50% reduction in risk of WNV infection. Protective behaviors included avoidance of exposure to mosquitoes, wearing long sleeves and pants, and using mosquito repellent. For more information: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/vol11no09/pdfs/04-1184.pdf>



West Nile Virus — Orange County 2005

- There have been 14 WNV infections reported in Orange County (4 WNF, 10 WNND). One asymptomatic blood donor has been reclassified as a WNF case. This time last year there were 38 reported cases.

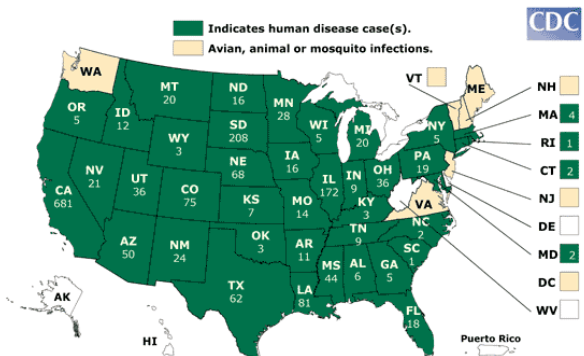
Select Counties	2005 # of Infections	2005 # with Symptoms	Reported Incidence of WNV per 100,000 pop.
Orange	14	14	0.49
Los Angeles	35	30	0.32
San Bernardino	31	29	1.70
Riverside	82	81	5.24
San Diego	1	1	0.04
Kern	54	53	8.01
Fresno	58	49	6.13
Stanislaus	77	70	15.66
Sacramento	170	149	12.18
California	801	742	2.19

(Data courtesy of the California Department of Health Services)

West Nile Virus — California and US 2005

- As of September 30, 2005, 801 human WNV infections have been reported in California. Of the 742 symptomatic cases, 245 (33%) had WNND, 427 (58%) had WNF, and 70 (9%) were unspecified. The median age for all symptomatic cases where data is available is 50 years (range, 2-93 years). Fifty-six percent of the cases are male.
- There have been 16 WNV-related fatalities this year in California (median age: 80.5 years).
- 1804 human WNV cases from 40 states have been reported to the CDC as of September 27, 2005.

2005 West Nile Virus Activity in the US (Reported to CDC as of September 27, 2005)



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