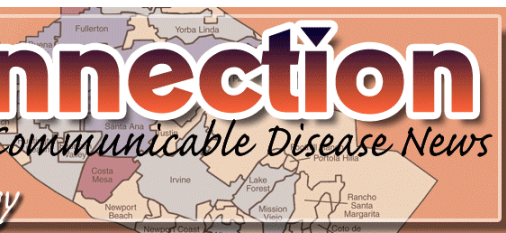




CD Connection

Orange County Communicable Disease News

Health Care Agency/Public Health Services - Epidemiology



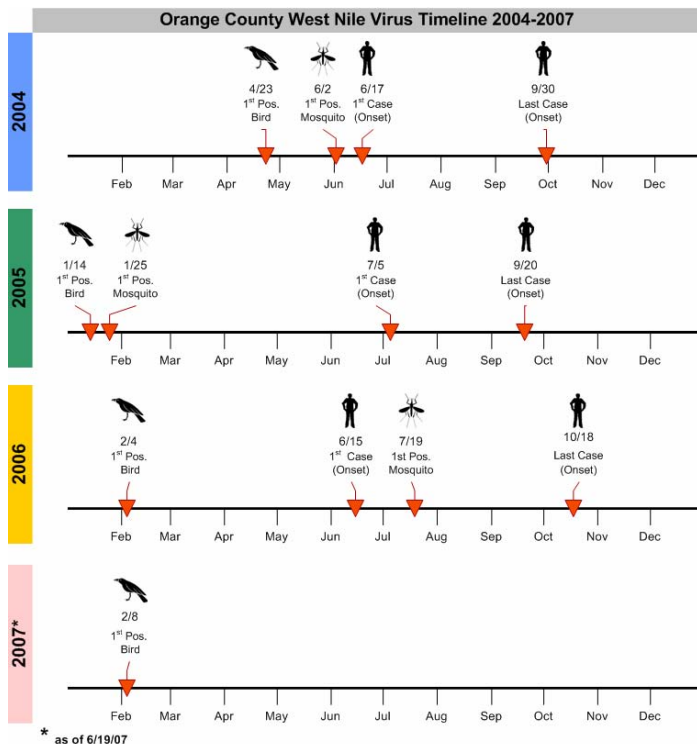
June 19, 2007

1719 W. 17th St. Santa Ana, CA 92706, (714) 834-8180

WEST NILE VIRUS (WNV) SEASON IS HERE!

This year's first human WNV infection in California was reported last week in an asymptomatic blood donor from Kern County. Consider WNV infection in your patients with aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, or prolonged fever and submit specimens for WNV testing.

- WNV testing is recommended for the following individuals:
 - All hospitalized patients with encephalitis
 - All hospitalized patients with aseptic meningitis (consider enterovirus first in children)
 - All hospitalized patients with acute flaccid paralysis
 - Patients with prolonged febrile illness (≥ 7 days) and symptoms compatible with West Nile infection who see a healthcare provider.
- Diagnosis is best made by serology (IgM or paired acute and convalescent IgG) for WNV. WNV IgM may be negative early in the course of the disease and may cross react with other flaviviruses. Repeat serology may be indicated if initial testing is negative in the first 10 days after onset of symptoms.
- WN fever (WNF), West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease (WNND), asymptomatic WNV infection, aseptic meningitis, and encephalitis are all reportable diseases and should be reported within one working day to OC Epidemiology via phone (714-834-8180) or fax (714-834-8196).
- For clinical information, see www.westnile.ca.gov/resources.php under Clinician Information.
- For information about WNV prevention, see www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/wnv/index.htm.



West Nile Virus -- Orange County and California

- No human cases have been reported in OC for 2007. Last year, OC reported seven confirmed WNV infections (4 WNND, 2 WNF, 1 asymptomatic blood donor). 17 WNV infections were reported in 2005 and 64 in 2004.
- Non-human WNV activity has been detected in birds, mosquitoes, and/or horses in 12 of 58 California counties so far this year: Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Clara, Shasta, Sonoma and Stanislaus.
- To report dead birds or squirrels, call Orange County Vector Control at 714-971-2421 x117.

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

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

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

Public Health Preparedness News...

- Suspect bioterrorism diseases (e.g., anthrax, botulism, brucellosis, plague, tularemia, viral hemorrhagic fevers), outbreaks, and unusual diseases are all reportable immediately by phone to Orange County Public Health at 714-834-8180. For a list of reportable diseases: www.ochealthinfo.com/docs/public/epi/forms/diseases.pdf

For comments or suggestions on the newsletter, contact Dr. Michele Cheung at (714) 834-8180. To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.