Boletín diario
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Organización Panamericana de la Salud
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Representación Ecuador
"Siempre alertas para responder a tiempo"

INFORME RESUMEN DE AMENAZAS A LA SALUD PÚBLICA INTERNACIONAL

15 de octubre de 2010

POLIO IN ANGOLA AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo) are experiencing outbreaks of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1).

In Angola, the outbreak which began in April 2007, has this year spread to re-infect previously polio-free areas in Angola (the provinces of Bie, Bengo, Huambo, Lunda Norte, Lunda Sul and Uige), as well as to neighbouring DR Congo, re-infecting Kasai Occidental province which borders Angola. This outbreak is classified as 're-established' transmission, as it has persisted for a period greater than 12 months.

In DR Congo, in addition to newly-imported virus from Angola this year, a case detected in Katanga province with onset of paralysis on 20 June 2010, in the east of the country, has been genetically-linked to virus previously imported from Angola, last detected in eastern DR Congo in 2008. In 2009, a case was detected in Burundi, which was linked to the same transmission chain. DR Congo was previously regarded by the Advisory Committee on Poliomyelitis Eradication (ACPE) has having 'suspected' re-established transmission, and this suspicion is now confirmed.

Given the recent progress achieved in Nigeria (99% reduction in cases this year compared to the same period in 2009), west Africa (no cases since 1 May 2010) and the Horn of Africa (no cases in more than 12 months), central Africa is now considered to be the greatest risk to Africa's polio eradication efforts. Angola's outbreak is currently the only geographically expanding outbreak in Africa. This situation increases the risk to achieving the next global milestone of the new Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) Strategic Plan 2010-2012, the cessation of all re-established WPV transmission by end-2010.

There is currently a high risk of international spread of WPV from Angola and DR Congo, given the limited impact to date of control measures and the historical cross-border spread from both countries. In 2010, outbreak response in both countries has been inadequate to stop transmission of the imported viruses. Independent monitoring of supplementary immunization activities (SIAs) indicate as many as 25% of children are regularly missed during SIAs in key areas of Angola (including Luanda, Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul). In DR Congo, no response activities have been conducted in the east of the country since November 2009. The outbreaks require urgent action to reach a higher proportion of children with oral polio vaccine (OPV) across Angola and DR Congo and improve surveillance across Angola and DR Congo.

Due to sub-national surveillance gaps, further undetected circulation of WPV1 cannot be ruled out. Given the increasingly widespread transmission of WPV1 in Angola and documented spread to DR Congo, the World Health Organization (WHO) considers the risk of further international spread as high. Given persistent undetected transmission of WPV1 in eastern DR Congo, and historical evidence of international spread, WHO considers the risk of further international spread as high.

Fuente: Medisys

BROTE DE LEPTOSPIROSIS DEJA NUEVE MUERTOS EN NICARAGUA

Nueve personas han muerto en Nicaragua contagiadas por la bacteria de la leptospirosis, mientras otras 90 personas que contrajeron la enfermedad se encuentran fuera de peligro, informó el Ministerio de Salud.

Los nueve fallecidos, entre ellos dos menores de 15 años, vivían en el departamento de León (oeste), donde se detectó un brote de la enfermedad hace unos días, dijo a la prensa el director de Vigilancia Epidemiológica del Ministerio, Edmundo Sánchez.

'Las inundaciones en el país dejaron secuelas importantes de áreas inundadas gravemente y por ende estábamos esperando enfermedades graves como la leptospirosis que puede provocar fallecidos', explicó Sánchez.

Hay otros 90 casos confirmados de leptospirosis, pero estos pacientes están fuera de peligro, dijo Sánchez: 73 en León, cuatro en Chinandega (oeste) y 13 en Granada (sur).

Más de 60.000 tratamientos preventivos fueron aplicados en León y Chinandega, señaló el funcionario.

Una alerta sanitaria declarada a finales de septiembre se mantendrá por ahora. Los factores de riesgo son aguas estancadas, con presencia de animales que depositan la orina en ellas, explicó Sánchez.

Los síntomas de la leptospirosis son fiebre, vómitos, dolor en articulaciones y cefalea.

En 2007 hubo una epidemia de leptospirosis en la misma zona y por las mismas causas, que dejó una decena de muertos y enfermó a cerca de 3.000 personas.

Fuente: Health Map