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Distributed by the NH Health Alert Network
Health.Alert@nh.gov
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NH-HAN 20140910



Second Human Case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis

NH Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS) recommends the following:

1. Awareness of a second identified human infection with Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus in New Hampshire in 2014.
 - o Vigilance is needed during the summer and early fall to consider mosquito-borne diseases, including West Nile Virus (WNV) and EEE in patients with compatible clinical features.
 - o Laboratory testing may be arranged by calling 603-271-4496 during business hours or 1-800-852-3345 ext. 5300 after hours.
 - o Forms and testing information are available at:
<http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dphs/cdcs/arboviral/providers.htm>.
2. Awareness that the risk level for human illness in the Candia, Conway, and Hopkinton areas have been raised to High.
3. Advise patients and residents to use prevention measures to avoid mosquito bites by protective clothing, insect repellents, and reducing environmental mosquito populations.
4. Report suspected and confirmed cases of mosquito-borne diseases to the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at 603-271-4496 (after hours 1-800-852-3345 ext. 5300).

Epidemiology:

The New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services (NH DPHS) has identified a second human case of neuroinvasive Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in an adult who resides in Hopkinton, NH. This individual became ill on September 5, 2014, and is believed to have acquired illness in the Hopkinton, NH area. This patient is currently hospitalized in stable condition.

To date this year, EEE virus has been detected in two humans from Conway and Hopkinton, one mule in Candia, and 6 mosquito batches in the towns of Candia, Danville, Derry, and Londonderry. A total of 14 EEE cases have been documented in NH since 2004. Nationally, as of September 3, 2014, two other human EEE cases have been reported from Alabama and New York for a total of four.

For additional information, please refer to previous Arboviral Update HANs:
View or download NHHAN Messages at <http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/alerts/han.htm>

If you or other health care providers have questions, please call the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at 603-271-4496 or 1-800-852-3345, extension 4496 during business hours (8:00 AM to 4:30 AM). On nights or weekends call the New Hampshire Hospital switchboard at 1-800-852-3345 extension 5300 and request the Public Health Professional on-call.

To change your contact information in the NH Health Alert Network, contact Denise Krol at 603-271-4596 or email Denise.Krol@dhhs.state.nh.us

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From: Benjamin P. Chan, MD – State Epidemiologist
Originating Agency: NH Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services

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