



**Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine
Unit FIVE**

Disease Surveillance Report

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With no clear indication of concern from our data, this is our best precaution, as well.

Avian Influenza: Has Indonesia Taken a Turn in Policy?

The World Health Organization must have been surprised to receive reports of two human bird flu fatalities from the Indonesian Health Ministry, since a few weeks ago, Health Minister Supari stated that they would report on a semi-annual basis. It is hoped that this report is indicative of future practices vice only semi-annual reporting. Indonesia has had more human H5N1 infections than any other country (135 cases and 110 deaths), so timely data reporting is essential to having the international “big picture.”

West Nile Virus

As of June 24, thirteen (13) human cases of West Nile disease had been reported to CDC as follows:

	Encephalitis/ Meningitis	Fever	Other Clinical Unspecified	Total
Arizona	1	0	0	1
California	0	1	0	1
Mississippi	2	2	0	4
North Dakota	0	1	0	1
Oklahoma	0	2	0	2
Tennessee	0	1	0	1
Texas	0	3	0	3
TOTAL	3	10	0	13

Table reproduced in part from CDC website:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/surv&control.htm>

No human case has resulted in death. Remember that West Nile virus cases are reportable in NDRSi.

Non-human West Nile virus activity has been reported this year in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Missouri, North Dakota, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Utah.

Salmonella Outbreak Update

As of July 1, the CDC website stated that since April, the number of persons identified as having been infected with Salmonella Saintpaul had reached 869 persons in 36 states and the District of Columbia. The increase is seen largely due to improved state surveillance and recent laboratory identification of samples submitted earlier. States in the western U.S. and numbers of cases are listed below:

Arkansas (10)	Arizona (41)	California (10)
Colorado (11)	Idaho (3)	Kansas (14)
Minnesota (2)	Missouri (12)	Nevada (11)
New Mexico (90)	Oklahoma (23)	Oregon (11)
Texas (346)	Utah (2)	Washington (4)

No deaths have been officially attributed to this outbreak. Only 3 persons were identified with this strain of Salmonella Saintpaul during the same period in 2007.

Local Chemists See Application of CDC Advisory on Lead in Artificial Turf

A June 18 CDC Health Advisory reported that artificial turf that is weathered, worn and dusty and is made of nylon or a combination of nylon/polyethylene blend fibers may pose a risk of lead exposure. These findings were based on testing done by the state of New Jersey on samples from an athletic field near a scrap metal facility. The finding of lead raised questions about lead in artificial turf used in other places such as playgrounds and playing fields that might be used by children.

In the previous month, the Navy & Marine Corps Public Health Center’s Comprehensive Industrial Hygiene Laboratory (CIHL), San Diego location had received a request to test a number of samples of artificial turf, one of which was found to contain a small amount of lead.

Initial testing at another local facility also found a small amount of lead in one of several samples submitted. A more extensive testing plan is under development and until the hazards are more fully known, the following Lead Poisoning Prevention practices are recommended to prevent exposure to the many sources of lead in the environment:

- Wash children’s hands frequently, always before they eat
- Do not eat food or use pacifiers that have been dropped on the floor or outside on the ground
- If your house was built before 1978, have it inspected for lead
- Use lead-safe work practices when doing work that disturbs lead-painted surfaces

Mumps Outbreak in British Columbia

According to a ProMed post dated 14 June, there has been an outbreak of 47 cases of mumps in British Columbia, mostly in Chilliwack, located in the eastern Fraser Valley. This could be of concerns for two reasons:

1) Chilliwack is not far from Vancouver and the Canada/U.S. border, making cross-border travel in either direction likely, and 2) Although the number of mumps cases in the same area during this period last year was three, there have been a number of mumps outbreaks in Canada over the past decade or so, raising the question of vaccination levels in the population.

In the NavMed West area this year to date, there has been only one mumps case reported via the Navy Disease Reporting System (NDRSi), which occurred in San Diego. ESSENCE however, shows 11 visits to date, coded for mumps, with three of them in the Pacific Northwest.

Health officials in Canada say they are reminding all children and adults to make sure their immunizations are up to date.

Visit our Pandemic Influenza Preparedness website:

<http://www.nepmu5.med.navy.mil/PIprepare/index.html>