

21 June 2019

Army Public Health Weekly Update

Army Public Health Center



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U.S. MILITARY

Medal of Honor recipient praises revolutionary neck injection treatment for PTSD

18 June- A therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder that some doctors believe will “revolutionize the way PTSD is handled” was the subject of a recent “60 Minutes” report featuring a number of afflicted veterans, including one Medal of Honor recipient. The breakthrough treatment, called stellate ganglion block, or SGB, has been shown to significantly diminish various symptoms of PTSD, such as depression, anxiety, and insomnia. By injecting an anesthetic that numbs a bundle of nerves at the base of the neck, the SGB treatment dulls the area that serves as the body’s “fight or flight” response transmitter, providing instantaneous relief from some of the epidemic’s most chronic symptoms. The shot, which was initially used to treat women experiencing menopausal hot flashes, is meticulously administered using ultrasound imagery to track the injection’s precision. Its results, meanwhile, are almost immediate and can last for months. “I feel like a million pounds was taken off me,” Medal of Honor recipient and Marine veteran Dakota Meyer told “60 Minutes” immediately after being administered one of the shots. “The best analogy I got for you is, like, if you took from being downtown New York City in rush hour traffic to, all of a sudden, driving down a quiet country road with nowhere to be.” Meyer was in Kunar Province, Afghanistan, in September 2009, when a patrol he was providing security for was ambushed by more than 50 enemy fighters. Realizing the team’s exit had been cut off, Meyer made five trips into the ambush zone over a period of six hours, braving walls of enemy fire each time to save as many pinned down personnel as he could. [Military Times top of page...](#)

GLOBAL

Alzheimer’s disease: UNM researchers develop vaccine, blood pressure drug holds promise

17 June- Alzheimer’s disease is a progressive memory disorder that affects nearly one in three seniors and is on the rise, currently affecting 43 million people worldwide. Behind the memory impairments, there is a perfect storm of destruction in the brain, stemming in part from accumulations of a protein called tau. Normally a stabilizing structure inside of neurons, tau can accumulate in long tangles that disrupt the ability of neurons to communicate with one another. University of New Mexico researchers have developed a vaccine that could prevent the formation of the tau tangles and potentially prevent the cognitive decline typically seen in Alzheimer’s patients. In a paper published earlier this month in NPJ Vaccines, the team reported it had engineered a vaccine using virus-like particles (VLPs, for short) that eliminated the tau tangles in mice that had been bred to develop symptoms like those affecting human Alzheimer’s patients. “We’re excited by these

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Residential Indoor Mold and Residential Mold Air Sample Results What Do They Mean?

The term "mold" is used to refer to fungi that are naturally occurring in the environment. Molds are found in virtually every environment and can be detected, both indoors and outdoors, year round. Mold growth is encouraged by warm and humid conditions.



findings, because they seem to suggest that we can use the body's own immune system to make antibodies against these tangles, and that these antibodies actually bind and clear these tau tangles," said Nicole Maphis, a PhD candidate in UNM's Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program. Maphis, working in the lab of Kiran Bhaskar, PhD, an associate professor in UNM's Department of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology, found that when the vaccine was given to mice, they developed antibodies that cleared the tau protein from their brains – and the response lasted for months. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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Be careful of fecal transplants, warns FDA, after patient death

14 June- Two people got very sick, and one died, during a trial of an experimental procedure known as fecal transplant, according to a statement issued Thursday from the Food and Drug Administration. As a result, the agency is suspending several clinical trials investigating the procedure until safety standards can be assured. Researchers are studying fecal microbiota for transplantation, or FMT, as a treatment for several intestinal conditions, including recurrent, antibiotic-resistant *Clostridium difficile* infection, which led to 29,000 deaths in 2015. FMT, which involves transplanting stool from a healthy person into the colon of a sick person, is still not approved by the FDA. This week's case involved two immuno-compromised adults who received investigational fecal transplants that contained a strain of antibiotic-resistant *E. coli*, according to the FDA. Both individuals received stool from the same donor, who was not screened for disease-causing bacteria before the procedure. While the FDA does not currently approve FMT for any use, the agency provides some guidelines for clinical trials of FMT, and seeks "to strike a balance between assuring patient safety and facilitating access to unapproved treatments for unmet medical needs," said Dr. Peter Marks, director of FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, in the FDA statement. [NPR](#)

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Ebola updates for DRC and Uganda, battle with rumors continue

17 June- Since the beginning of the epidemic in August 2018, the cumulative number of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) cases is 2,148, 2,054 confirmed and 94 probable. In total, there were 1,440 deaths (1,346 confirmed and 94 probable). There were a couple issues reported concerning security. Destruction and arson of sanitary control at checkpoint Mudzipela in Ituri by strangers in the night of 15 to 16 June 2019 was reported. In addition on Sunday, a group of bikers tried to attack an Infection Control and Prevention (IPC) team that was cleaning up a confirmed case of Ebola in Hoho in the area of Rwampara health. Urban authorities sent police reinforcements to disperse the bikers and allow the IPC team to return to coordination. Nobody was hurt in the attack. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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**The Surgeon
General Weekly
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<https://intelshare.intelink.sgov.gov/sites/medcom-g2/SitePages/Home.aspx>

To access this version, you will need a **SECRET** clearance and a SIPRNet account.

Low-income African countries 'pay 30 times more' for drugs

18 June- African countries with small to medium-sized economies pay far more money for less effective drugs, a leading health expert has told BBC Newsday. In countries such as Zambia, Senegal and Tunisia, everyday drugs like paracetamol can cost up to 30 times more than in the UK and USA. Drug markets in poorer countries "just don't work", said Kalipso Chalkidou from the Centre for Global Development. She said "competition is broken" due to a "concentrated supply chain". Ms. Chalkidou, director of global health policy at the organisation, co-authored a report on drug procurement that concluded that small to middling economy countries buy a smaller range of medicines, leading to weaker competition, regulation and quality. It says richer countries, thanks to public money and strong processes for buying drugs, are able to procure cheaper medicines. Poorer countries, however, tend to buy the most expensive medicines, rather than cheaper unbranded pharmaceuticals which make up 85% of the market in the UK and US. The very poorest countries are not affected when foreign donors purchase medicine on their behalf, meaning their over-the-counter medicines remain at low cost. [BBC News](#)

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Measles cases in United States rise to 1,044

17 June- The measles outbreak in the United States continues to grow, with the number of cases this year now reaching 1,044 as of Friday, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Those cases have been confirmed in 28 states. The states that have reported cases to CDC are Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Mexico, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Tennessee, Virginia, and Washington. The number of cases this year marks the greatest number reported in the United States since 1992 and since measles was declared eliminated in 2000, meaning it was no longer continuously transmitted in the country. [CNN](#)

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Over 100 children killed in India's encephalitis outbreak as protesters call for action

18 June- An encephalitis outbreak has killed over 100 children in eastern India since June, officials say, with more than 430 others requiring hospitalization. The outbreak, striking children in India's Bihar, has set off political protests outside a hospital where patients are being treated, with villagers claiming that the state's chief minister ignored the issue until the death toll reached 100. Thousands of people in India suffer from encephalitis, malaria, typhoid and other mosquito-borne diseases each year during the summer monsoon season, with children younger than 15 being the most vulnerable, according to the Associated Press.

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Left-wing political organizations have accused the Bihar government of not being proactive enough to prevent the illnesses. [Fox news](#)

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Teen suicides at all-time high since turn of the millennium

19 June- In 2017, a total of 6,241 teens and young adults in the United States died of suicide, the highest number of suicide deaths since 2000. A recent study found that the rate of suicide among 15- to 24-year-olds has been soaring in recent years. "The data shows that it is a very real threat," stated Oren Miron, a research associate at Harvard Medical School and the first author of the paper published in JAMA. [Tech Times](#)

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The overlooked crisis of eating disorders among middle-aged women

17 June- You're an adult with multiple decades to your credit, and you've got it all together — or look like you do. The fact that you never have a kind word for yourself when you look in the mirror? Well, who does? You're eating and exercise obsessions, secret binges, and occasional purges can't possibly be signs of an eating disorder. After all, your friends, family and even your doctor praise you when you lose a few more pounds. Besides, you're too "old" for an eating disorder — right? The truth is that eating disorders in midlife — and beyond — are all too common among women. "The belief that we all have is that eating disorders are a white girl's disease, in high school and college, when really it is across all ages," said Margo Maine, a Connecticut-based clinical psychologist and co-author of "Pursuing Perfection." "We have every color, every class, every ethnicity, and eating disorders are now in every country around the globe." A 2012 study estimated that 13 percent of American woman age 50 and older have eating disorder symptoms. A 2017 study found that about 3.5 percent of women older than 40 have a diagnosable eating disorder, yet most are not receiving treatment. Another study found that though rates of anorexia plateau around age 26, rates of bulimia don't plateau until around age 47, and rates of binge-eating disorder don't plateau until the 70s. Awareness of eating disorders in midlife has been increasing slowly. Maine's 2005 book "The Body Myth," has helped spotlight the issue. At the time of publication, many of her adult eating disorder patients were mothers of former patients who finally realized that they had problems, too. "One of them had bulimia for 30 years and had had two marriages," she said. "Neither of her husband's knew, her children didn't know, her doctors didn't have a clue." [Washington Post](#)

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Western, Eastern and Venezuelan equine encephalitis: Vaccine provides protection in nonhuman primates

16 June- For the first time, a new vaccine provided complete protection against three types of equine encephalitic viruses in nonhuman primates, according to a new study published in the journal Science Translational Medicine. The research was a joint collaborative effort involving Tulane University, the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Army. These encephalitic alphaviruses are possible bioterrorism agents because of their potential to be aerosolized, punctuating the need for a vaccine to protect populations in the event of an attack. Tulane University researchers Chad J. Roy and Vicki Traina-Dorge, both Tulane National Primate Research Center (TNPRC) faculty, directed the portion of the studies involving the use of specialized biocontainment laboratories located at the TNPRC.

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INFLUENZA

CDC: Flu View - Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report

2018-2019 Influenza Season Week 23 ending June 8, 2019:

U.S. Virologic Surveillance: WHO and NREVSS collaborating laboratories, which include both public health and clinical laboratories located in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the District of Columbia, report to CDC the total number of respiratory specimens tested for influenza and the number positive for influenza by virus type. In addition, public health laboratories also report the influenza A subtype (H1 or H3) and influenza B lineage information of the viruses they test and the age or age group of the persons from whom the specimens were collected.

Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality Surveillance: Based on National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) mortality surveillance data available on June 6, 2019, 5.4% of the deaths occurring during the week ending June 1, 2019 (week 22) were due to P&I. This percentage is below the epidemic threshold of 6.3% for week 22.

Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality: Two influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported to CDC during week 23. One death was associated with an influenza A (H3) virus and occurred during week 19 (the week ending May 11, 2019); one death was associated with an influenza virus for which no virus type or subtype testing was performed and occurred during week 22 (the week ending June 1, 2019). [CDC](#)

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Cyclospora parasites have infected nine in England so far this year

19 June- As of early June, nine people have been sickened by the Cyclospora parasite in England this year, with the source of infection not yet known. The sick people had traveled to several other countries, including the Dominican Republic, Indonesia and Mexico. Infection is usually acquired from food or water contaminated by human feces. Microscopic amounts of feces are enough to contaminate large amounts of food and beverages. Previous outbreaks have been traced to soft fruits like raspberries and fresh produce including cilantro, coriander, basil and lettuce. Between 2005 and 2014, an average of 32 people fell ill with Cyclospora parasite infections in England and Wales each year. Reports of Cyclospora infections in United Kingdom travelers are being monitored by Public Health England, Health Protection Scotland, Public Health Wales and the Public Health Agency in Northern Ireland. [Food Safety News](#)

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Pillsbury Best bread flour recalled due to possible E. coli

17 June- Hometown Food Company, in cooperation with ADM Milling Co., initiated a voluntary recall Friday of two specific lot codes of its Pillsbury® Best 5 lb. Bread Flour due to a potential presence of pathogenic E. coli. The product was manufactured by ADM Milling Co., at the company's mill in Buffalo, NY. The severity of E. coli infections vary among people and often include several symptoms, including severe stomach cramps, diarrhea (often bloody) and vomiting. People usually develop symptoms and get sick 3-4 days after ingesting the germ, and most recover within a week. In some cases, individuals may develop a serious illness called hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS, which can result in kidney failure, stroke, and even death). Young children, elderly individuals, pregnant women and those who are immunocompromised are more susceptible to foodborne illness. If you feel ill or are at all concerned about an illness, please contact your physician. Approximately 4,620 cases of impacted Pillsbury® Best 5 lb. Bread Flour were distributed to a limited number of retailers and distributors across the following 10 states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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Ruiz Foods recalls 123.2 tons of breakfast wraps for containing “small rocks”

15 June- Denison, TX-based Ruiz Foods Products Inc. late Friday recalled approximately 246,514 pounds of frozen, not ready-to-eat (NRTE) breakfast wrap products containing bacon that may be contaminated with extraneous materials, specifically small rocks, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). The frozen egg, potato, bacon and cheese wrap items were produced on Jan. 17, 2019 and Jan. 18, 2019. The following product is subject to recall: 8-Pack family size film packages containing “EL MONTEREY EGG, POTATO, BACON & CHEESE SAUCE BREAKFAST WRAPS” with “Best if Used By” dates of 01/17/2020 and 01/18/2020 and lot codes 19017 and 19018. The recalled products bear establishment number “EST. 17523A” on the back of the package. These items were shipped to retail locations nationwide. [Food Safety News](#)

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Some Ragú pasta sauces recalled because of fragments of plastic

18 June- The company behind Ragú brand sauces is recalling an unreported amount of pasta sauces from stores nationwide because they may contain fragments of plastic. Mizkan America Inc. did not include any information in its recall notice about how the plastic may have gotten into the sauces or how the problem was discovered. The company also reported that, as of the posting of the notice, it had not received any confirmed reports of consumer complaints or injuries. The multi-national company, which has offices in Mount Prospect, IL, is urging consumers to check their refrigerators and cabinets for unused portions of the five sauces that are subject to the recall. Best-by dates on the products extend through June 2020. [Food Safety News](#)

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Sprouts Farmers Market recalls spinach in 19 states after Listeria test

18 June- The Sprouts Farmers Market grocery chain is recalling conventional and organic frozen spinach manufactured by National Frozen Foods of Oregon, because a random test came back positive for *Listeria monocytogenes*. The test showed the bacteria in the finished product, according to the company recall notice posted by the Food and Drug Administration. However, the notice from the Phoenix-based retailer did not say whether the testing was conducted by the FDA, Sprouts or the spinach manufacturer. Consumers are urged to check their homes for the recalled Sprouts brand frozen spinach. No one should eat the recalled spinach and anything used to store or prepare it should be thoroughly washed. [Food Safety News](#)

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WinCo recalls frozen raspberries from 10 states because of norovirus test

17 June- WinCo Foods LLC is recalling frozen red raspberries because of potential contamination with norovirus. The Food and Drug Administration found norovirus in a sample of WinCo brand raspberries and informed the Boise, ID, company, according to the recall notice. Rader Farms of Bellingham, WA, produced the berries for WinCo. The recall notice does not indicate whether raspberries from Rader Farms facilities or production lots were distributed to companies other than WinCo. Consumers who have purchased the products are urged to destroy or return it to the stores for a full refund of the product. People with questions may contact the company at 800-824-1706, WinCo officials said in their recall notice. No illnesses had been confirmed in relation to the frozen raspberries as of the posting of the public announcement about the recall. [Food Safety News](#)

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WELLNESS

Getting a good night's sleep without drugs

17 June- Shakespeare wisely recognized that sleep "knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care" and relieves life's physical and emotional pains. Alas, this "chief nourisher in life's feast," as he called it, often eludes millions of people who suffer from insomnia. Desperate to fall asleep or fall back to sleep, many resort to Ambien or another of the so-called "Z drugs" to get elusive shut-eye. But except for people with short-term sleep-disrupting issues, like post-surgical pain or bereavement, these sedative-hypnotics have a time-limited benefit and can sometimes cause more serious problems than they might prevent. They should not be used for more than four or five weeks. In April, the Food and Drug Administration added a boxed warning to the prescription insomnia drugs zolpidem (Ambien, Edluar, Intermezzo and Zolpimist), zaleplon (Sonata) and eszopiclone (Lunesta) following reports of injury and death from sleepwalking, sleep-driving and engaging in other hazardous activities while not fully awake. Last July, a Georgia woman was arrested when she drove the wrong way on a highway the day after using Ambien, as prescribed, to help her sleep. Although she had consumed no alcohol, she flunked a standard sobriety test and told police she was unaware of how she ended up going the wrong way. Although extreme reactions to these sleep drugs are thought to be uncommon, they are unpredictable and can be disastrous when they occur. Some have resulted in vehicular fatalities. As many as 20 percent to 30 percent of people in the general population sleep poorly. They may have difficulty falling asleep or staying asleep, some awaken much too early, while others do not feel rested despite spending a full night seemingly asleep in bed. For one person in 10, insomnia is a chronic problem that repeats itself night after night. Little wonder that so many resort to sleeping pills to cope with it. [New York Times](#)

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Sleeping habits can have effect on Alzheimer's progression later in life

19 June- In a new study, researchers found that a person's sleeping habits can predict the accumulation of Alzheimer's pathology protein in the brain later in life. A team from the University of California, Berkeley linked decrease in slow oscillations and sleep spindle synchronization on electroencephalogram (EEG) to higher tau. Meanwhile, reduced slow-wave-activity amplitude was associated with higher A β levels. The paper published in The Journal of Neuroscience used the data of 101 cognitively normal adults from the longitudinal Berkeley Aging Cohort Study. A subset of 31 participants took the sleep EEG assessment while 95 participants completed a retrospective questionnaire that evaluated lifespan sleep duration and sleep quality change. The EEG data revealed that the severity of impaired slow oscillation-sleep spindle coupling was linked to greater medial temporal lobe tau burden. The researchers, however, did not see significant associations with A β . Impairments in 0.6-1Hz slow-wave-activity, meanwhile, predicted cortical A β , but not tau in the medial temporal lobe or any cortical regions. Upon analysis of self-reported changes in sleep duration, the researchers noticed that sleep patterns across lifespans predicted A β and tau burden later in life. "This finding may suggest that decreasing sleep duration in mid to late life is significantly associated with an increased risk of late-life A β burden, and that a profile of maintained (or even subtle increase) in sleep duration throughout this time period is statistically associated with a reduced predicted risk of A β accumulation in late life," the researchers wrote. [Tech Times](#)

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USAFRICOM

Uganda Health Ministry quells Ebola rumors in Wakiso

15 June- In a follow-up on the Uganda Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) situation, the Health Ministry is now battling rumors and fake news of EVD cases in other areas of the country. The Ministry of Health would like to inform you all that there is NO Ebola in Wakiso or any other part of Uganda other than Kasese District. As of now, we do NOT have any confirmed case of Ebola in Kasese and no suspect cases in isolation. All 4 suspect cases tested NEGATIVE for Ebola. 112 contacts have been line listed for follow up. Once again, please don't spread rumors about the Ebola outbreak. Follow Ministry of Health- Uganda, Jane Aceng and World Health Organization Uganda for authentic updates on the current Ebola outbreak. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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USCENTCOM

India: Acute Encephalitis Syndrome kills scores in Bihar

19 June- The outbreak of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES), or as it's known locally as Chamki fever, in Muzaffarpur and the adjoining districts in Bihar state of India has grown significantly since first reported at the beginning of the month. According to a Jagran report, at least 140 children have died due to this disease, while 443 children have been admitted in the district hospitals for treatment. The cause of the outbreak is unclear. According to a 2016 paper, AES is characterized by an acute onset of fever and clinical neurological manifestation that includes mental confusion, disorientation, delirium, or coma. Viruses have been mainly attributed to be the cause of AES in India although other sources such as bacteria, fungus, parasites, spirochetes, chemical, and toxins have been reported over the past few decades. Apart from viral encephalitis, severe form of leptospirosis and toxoplasmosis can cause AES. The causative agent of AES varies with season and geographical location, and predominantly affects population below 15 years. Outbreaks in recent years have affected 342 children in 2014, of these 86 children were killed. In 2012, 120 children died from this disease. However, 336 children were then ill. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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USEUCOM

Campylobacter outbreak hits Askøy, Norway

16 June- Last week, the Norwegian Institute of Public Health reported a Campylobacter outbreak in Askøy, Hordaland county, Norway. Some 2,000 people have been sickened, presenting with symptoms of diarrhea, fever and abdominal pains. It was believed that water was the source of the outbreak. Last Wednesday, a patient from Askøy died at Haukeland University Hospital. The patient was admitted with gastrointestinal symptoms during the weekend. The person has been diagnosed with Campylobacter. The patient had a very serious underlying disorder. An autopsy is scheduled to determine the cause of death. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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Sweden: New outbreak of Yersinia infection is being investigated

18 June- In Sweden, the National Institute of Public Health, or Folkhälsomyndigheten is reporting a new outbreak of infections caused by Yersinia enterocolitica type O3. The source of infection is still unknown. During the middle of May, a number of reported cases of Yersinia infection has been seen in Sweden. Seven regions from different parts of the country have reported cases, but the majority of cases come from the northernmost regions of the country. So far, 26 cases of disease have been confirmed to belong to the outbreak by means of whole-genome sequencing. Another handful of cases are investigated. Since the current outbreak strain of Yersinia enterocolitica type O3 has been found in different parts of the country, it is likely that a food borne infection. The current outbreak strain differs from the one that caused a Yersinia outbreak earlier in the spring. Yersiniosis is an infection caused most often by eating raw or undercooked pork contaminated with Yersinia enterocolitica bacteria. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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USINDOPACOM

Hong Kong: Scabies outbreak reported at Tuen Mun elderly home

15 June- Hong Kong health officials announced they are investigating a scabies outbreak at an elderly home in Tuen Mun. The outbreak involves six male and 14 female residents aged 73 to 95. They have presented with skin itchiness and rash since May 5. All sought medical attention and none required hospitalization. All patients have been in a stable condition. The skin scraping of an affected person was confirmed to have *Sarcoptes scabiei* after laboratory examination. Centre for Health Protection (CHP) officers conducted a site visit and advised the elderly home to adopt necessary infection control measures against scabies infections. They have been put under medical surveillance. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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India: Acute Encephalitis Syndrome kills scores in Bihar

19 June- The outbreak of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES), or as it's known locally as Chamki fever, in Muzaffarpur and the adjoining districts in Bihar state of India has grown significantly since first reported at the beginning of the month. According to a Jagran report, at least 140 children have died due to this disease, while 443 children have been admitted in the district hospitals for treatment. The cause of the outbreak is unclear. According to a 2016 paper, AES is characterized by an acute onset of fever and clinical neurological manifestation that includes mental confusion, disorientation, delirium, or coma. Viruses have been mainly attributed to be the cause of AES in India although other sources such as bacteria, fungus, parasites, spirochetes, chemical, and toxins have been reported

over the past few decades. Apart from viral encephalitis, severe form of leptospirosis and toxoplasmosis can cause AES. The causative agent of AES varies with season and geographical location, and predominantly affects population below 15 years. Outbreaks in recent years have affected 342 children in 2014, of these 86 children were killed. In 2012, 120 children died from this disease. However, 336 children were then ill. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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Kaohsiung City local dengue cases now at 20

15 June- In a follow-up on the locally transmitted dengue fever situation in Kaohsiung City, Taiwan, the Department of Disease Control reports 20 indigenous cases. Of the 20 cases, most were reported from Sanmin District. Dengue virus type 4 (DEN4) is being reported in the cases. According to the Department of Disease Control, because the clinical symptoms of type 4 dengue fever are less typical, the hospital is urged to be alert. If patients with fever have symptoms, they should immediately use dengue NS1 to assist in the diagnosis and strengthen the notification of suspected cases. The health unit will take preventive measures in a timely manner. The Department of Disease Control said that in response to the need for epidemic prevention and control in high-risk counties and cities in China, the county and city governments will be approved to handle the prevention and control of vector-borne infectious diseases such as dengue fever every year. Among them, Kaohsiung City received a total of 15.23 million subsidies for infectious disease prevention and control this year. Yuan, including dengue subsidies totaled 8.61 million yuan, the largest in the country. In response to the additional funding for the prevention and treatment of dengue fever in Kaohsiung City, the Executive Director Su Yichang instructed in the Executive Yuan meeting on June 13 that the central government will continue to provide support if the Kaohsiung City Government's subsidies for infectious disease prevention and treatment are insufficient. The CDC reiterated that the Department of Health and Welfare is fully committed to assisting counties and cities in the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases.

[Outbreak News Today](#)

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Myanmar: Hundreds of dengue cases reported in Yangon

17 June- The Yangon Region Public Health Department has reported 670 dengue fever cases since the beginning of the year, including eight deaths, according to an Eleven Myanmar report. Fatalities have been reported in both adults and children. Public Health Department has directed officials to systematically carry out prevention and control of DHF at the basic education schools due to the rampant number of DHF cases in some regions and states including Yangon as every year, the transmission of DHF in Yangon, Mandalay and Taninthayi is usually high, according to health department deputy head, Dr. Myo Thant. Dengue is a viral infection transmitted by the bite of an infected mosquito. There are four closely related but antigenically different serotypes of the virus that can cause dengue.

[Outbreak News Today](#)

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Singapore dengue update: 5th fatality reported

20 June- Since our last report on Singapore's dengue fever situation on May 31, nearly 1000 additional cases have been reported in the Asian city-state. Through June 19, 5184 dengue cases have been reported. The National Environment Agency (NEA) reports 467 dengue cases were reported in the week ending 15 June 2019, 67 cases more than in the previous week. The number of weekly reported dengue cases have more than quadrupled in the past 3 months. The number of active dengue clusters have also more than doubled in the past month to 112 (as of 17 June 2019). In addition, the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito population in the community is persistently high and this increases the risk of transmission of the dengue virus. In addition, an additional dengue-related fatality was reported. An 84-year-old woman living in Geylang Lorong 6 has become the fifth person to die of dengue fever this year. Persons infected with dengue should protect themselves from mosquito bites by applying repellent regularly. If you are unwell and showing symptoms suggestive of dengue, you are advised to seek medical attention early. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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Sri Lanka: Mother-to-child HIV and syphilis elimination, dengue update

18 June- Sri Lanka health officials report that the country is planning to obtain validation certificate by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a country which has eliminated mother to child transmission of HIV and syphilis, according to the government news source. Sri Lanka is among the front line countries that had effectively controlled the spread of HIV/ AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases like Syphilis and Gonorrhoea, by spread of the three diseases keeping in about .02% a year , according to Dr. Lilani Rajapaksa, National Coordinator, of the 'Project to Prevent Transmission of HIV and Syphilis from Mother to Child' . "Mothers who are infected with either with HIV or syphilis infection are provided with treatment and other necessary services during pregnancy, delivery and even after delivery by the government, assuring privacy and confidentiality," she said. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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Taiwan: Japanese encephalitis death reported

19 June- In a follow-up on the Japanese encephalitis situation in Taiwan, the Department of Disease Control reported three additional confirmed cases. The three new cases is a man in his 60s of Zuoying District of Kaohsiung City, a man in his 50s in Nanzhou Township of Pingtung County, and a man in his 40s in Liujiao Township of Chiayi County. All three remain hospitalized. Risk factors include paddy fields, water rafts and poultry houses near Kaohsiung City; Pingtung County cases have had friends with pigeons; Chiayi County cases have no fixed activities except for homes and workplaces, and their homes and workplaces are nearby. There are pig houses and large drainage ditch. In addition, a fatality due to Japanese encephalitis was reported in a 50-year-old woman in Kaohsiung City announced by the Department of Disease Control on June 4. The case was admitted to the intensive care unit on May 28. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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USNORTHCOM

Canada: Syphilis and HIV cases up in northwest Saskatchewan

15 June- The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) has seen an increasing number of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and infectious syphilis cases in recent months in northwest Saskatchewan. An HIV outbreak has been declared for North Battleford, primarily among people who inject drugs and share needles and other injection drug use equipment. HIV is also spread from person to person through unprotected sexual activity. A syphilis outbreak has been declared for the areas of the former health region, particularly the Battlefords and Lloydminster areas. Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection that is spread

from person to person through direct contact with a syphilis sore. An outbreak may be declared when more cases of disease than expected occur in a given area or among a specific group of people over a particular period of time. In North Battleford between 2013 and 2018, an average of four new HIV cases were reported annually. From January to the end of May 2019, 15 new cases were reported. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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USSOUTHCOM

Malaria: Most cases in Trinidad and Tobago are in Venezuelan's

15 June- Health officials in Trinidad and Tobago are reporting that the majority of malaria cases reported so far this year are in Venezuelans, according to a Trinidad Express report earlier this week. Health Minister Terrence Deyalsingh said of the 17 malaria cases reported, 13 are in Venezuelans. Numbers of malaria cases tallied by the Venezuelan Ministry of Health and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is ~430,000 cases for 2018. However, a consortium of five global health organizations to include ASOCIS and Global Development One are doing forensic epidemiology & rebuilding the national malaria database 2018 are in February reported 1,302,670 malaria cases in 2018. In addition to the cases from Venezuelans, officials say the remaining cases include one case is a Trinbagonian, one is from Uganda, one from Ghana and one from Guyana. [Outbreak News Today](#)

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The *Army Public Health Weekly Update* is published by the Public Health Communication Directorate, Army Public Health Center.

