

June 6, 2013

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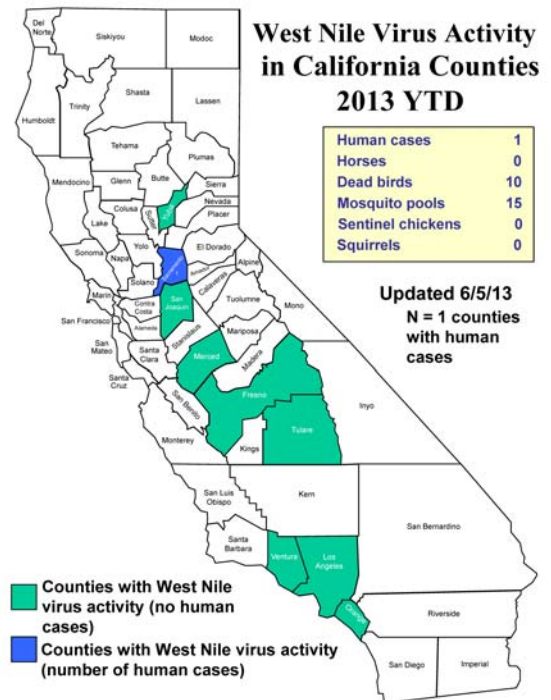
West Nile Virus Season Has Started

Orange County reported its first West Nile Virus positive bird and mosquito pool of the season last week! This is the first detection of West Nile Virus (WNV) in Orange County this year. WNV has also been detected in mosquito samples and/or dead birds in eight other California counties (see map below). Human cases have been reported each year since 2004 in Orange County. In previous years, the first WNV cases in Orange County usually had symptom onsets starting in mid-June to mid-July.

California reported its first human case of West Nile Virus for 2013. One fatal case of human WNV illness has been reported in a Sacramento county male resident who tested positive for WNV earlier this year. His illness, as well as his laboratory test results, is potentially consistent with West Nile neuroinvasive disease.

Consider WNV infection in your patients with aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, acute flaccid paralysis or prolonged fever and submit serum specimens for testing.

- **Diagnosis:** is made by serology (IgM and IgG) for WNV. Testing is available through commercial laboratories and through OC Public Health on a case-by-case basis.
 - WNV IgM may be negative early in the course of the disease and serology 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.
- **Clinical guidance for WNV:**
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/clinicians/>
- **Reporting:** West Nile 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 Public Health via phone (714-834-8180) or fax (714-834-8196).



Educate your patients, friends and family about WNV prevention -- avoiding mosquito bites:

- Eliminate standing water on your property as this is where mosquitoes breed. Drain pots, unclog gutters, and keep swimming pools clean and chlorinated or drained and covered.
- Make sure that door and window screens are in good condition to keep the mosquitoes out.
- When outdoors, use an insect repellent containing DEET, oil of lemon eucalyptus, picaridin, or IR3535. Always follow the product directions on the label. For more information on use and effectiveness of insect repellent, see EPA flyer
http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/resources/08_118867_repellent_timeline_8%205X11.pdf OR interactive website:
<http://cfpub.epa.gov/oppref/insect/>.

Recommended Resources

Orange County Health Care Agency:
<http://ochealthinfo.com/phs/about/dcepi/epi/disease/wn>

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