



INFORME RESUMEN DE AMENAZAS A LA SALUD PÚBLICA INTERNACIONAL 06 de diciembre de 2010

UNDIAGNOSED DISEASE - UGANDA

The mysterious disease that has devastated parts of Acholi and Karamoja sub-regions for close to a month could be human plague. Kitgum district LC5 chairman, John Komakech Ogwok, quoting sources from the World Health Organisation, said on Friday evening [3 Dec 2010] that preliminary tests point at the plague. "Information from the World Health Organisation (WHO) says that the strange disease that has been disturbing us seems to be plague. But the tests have ruled out Ebola or Marburg [haemorrhagic fevers] as had been widely suspected by people here," he said.

Speaking during a book launch at the district council hall, Ogwok said further tests were still being carried out to ascertain which of the 3 types of plague [bubonic plague, septicemic plague, and pneumonic plague] could be infecting the people. Human plague is transmitted by fleas that move on rats and other rodents. The symptoms are said to be similar to the ones associated with a strange disease that broke out in Abim about a month ago and has now spread to Agago, Kitgum, Lamwo and Pader districts. Those infected manifest symptoms of headache, stomach-ache, bloody vomiting and diarrhoea and also cases of blood seeping through most of the openings in the body. The last known report of the human plague disease in Uganda was reported in Arua District in 2004 and Nebbi in 2006.

Meanwhile, one more person in Kitgum, a 70-year-old man, died on Thursday [2 Dec 2010] at St Joseph's Hospital from the mysterious disease, bringing to 9 the total number of people who have died due to the disease, and a total of 16 people infected, as of Friday [3 Dec 2010].

NOTA DE PROMED

The number of fatalities attributed to this still undiagnosed disease has fluctuated from 36 on 29 Nov 2010, to 8 (approximately) on 1 Dec 2010, 20 on 3 Dec 2010, and now 9 in the current report. The only certainty at present is that this is not an outbreak of Ebola/Marburg-like haemorrhagic fever. A previous suggestion that amoebic dysentery was responsible appears to have been discarded and replaced by information attributed to WHO suggesting that the disease is plague, which has not been seen in Uganda since 2006.

On the basis of the limited descriptions of the disease so far available, plague would seem an unlikely cause and a book launch a curious venue to communicate the information. The plague that kills is pneumonic, and there has been no description about cough hemoptysis, etc. There is also no mention of buboes in others. For these reasons, we will continue to carry this thread as undiagnosed disease until there is official and verifiable confirmation of a diagnosis.

Fuente: Promed

AVIAN INFLUENZA, HUMAN (61): EGYPT, 113TH CASE, 37TH DEATH

Egypt on Saturday [4 Dec 2010] announced the 10th bird flu fatality [and 23rd case] this year [2010], a 30-year-old woman residing north of the capital.

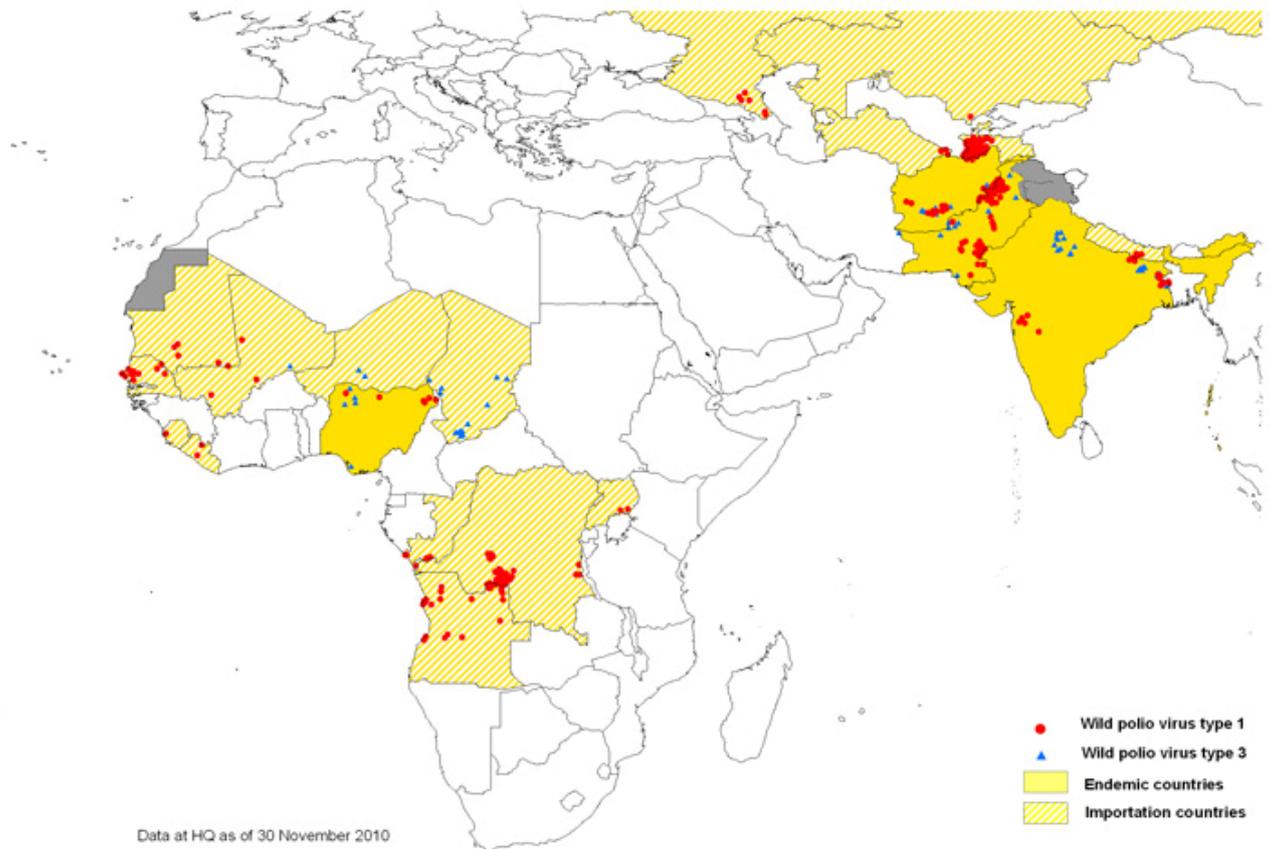
Since the national outbreak of the pandemic in 2006, some 113 cases were discovered, 37 of which led to death, the Egyptian Health Ministry said in a statement.

The overall global total of human cases of avian A/(H5N1) influenza now becomes 559 with 303 fatalities

Fuente: Promed

Polio cases in the world

Wild Poliovirus, 2010



Fuente: Polio Global Eradication Initiative