

4 May 2012

# Army Public Health Weekly Update

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U.S. Army Public Health Command



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## Warrior Games



Retired Army veteran Melissa Stockwell and Royal Marine Capt. Simon Maxwell from Croydon, England, carry the torch after lighting the cauldron to kick off the 2012 Warrior Games in Colorado Springs, Colo., April 30, 2012. DOD photo by D. Myles Cullen



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### U.S. MILITARY

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## FDA orders halt to sale of products containing DMAA



30 April - The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has ordered fitness supplement companies to immediately stop selling popular bodybuilding and weight-loss products containing DMAA, because of the substance's potentially fatal side effects. The agency has determined DMAA — which is sold as 1,3-dimethylamylamine, methylhexanamine, or geranium extract — is a synthetic substance that could cause heart attacks by elevating blood pressure in users. There have been 42 public complaints about products containing DMAA, indicating it might be linked to other serious health effects including nervous system and psychiatric disorders as well as death, the agency said Friday in a news release. Products containing DMAA were pulled from military

## FDA challenges marketing of DMAA products

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued warning letters to ten manufacturers and distributors of dietary supplements containing dimethylamylamine, more popularly known as DMAA, for marketing products for which evidence of the safety of the product had not been submitted to FDA.



## New Website for MILVAX

MILVAX has redesigned their Immunization Information and Training Web Portal. The new design brings important content closer to the front, emphasizes immunization training opportunities, and makes the site more modular for easier viewing.



exchange store shelves in December. The substance has fallen under increasing scrutiny since Stars and Stripes reported that DMAA was found during toxicology tests of two soldiers who suffered heart attacks and died during physical training at a base in the Southwest U.S. In light of those deaths and other complaints, the Army Public Health Command initiated a case control study on the effects of DMAA to determine if there is a link between the use of the substance and reports of dangerous health conditions. [Stars and Stripes](#)

## Imported human rabies in a U.S. Army Soldier — New York, 2011

4 May - On August 19, 2011, a male U.S. Army soldier with progressive right arm and shoulder pain, nausea, vomiting, ataxia, anxiety, and dysphagia was admitted to an emergency department (ED) in New York for suspected rabies. Rabies virus antigens were detected in a nuchal skin biopsy, rabies virus antibodies in serum and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), and rabies viral RNA in saliva and CSF specimens by state and CDC rabies laboratories. An Afghanistan canine rabies virus variant was identified. The patient underwent an experimental treatment protocol (1) but died on August 31. The patient had described a dog bite while in Afghanistan. However, he had not received effective rabies postexposure prophylaxis (PEP). In total, 29 close contacts and health-care personnel (HCP) received PEP after contact with the patient. This case highlights the continued risks for rabies virus exposure during travel or deployment to rabies-enzootic countries, the need for global canine rabies elimination through vaccination, and the importance of following effective PEP protocols and ensuring global PEP availability. [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#)

## Mental health diagnoses during the year prior to schizophrenia, U.S. Armed Forces, 2001-2010

March 2012 - Identification of military members in the prodromal phase of schizophrenia may lead to earlier treatment and allow non-urgent transition away from military duties. This report documents the incidence of schizophrenia in the U.S. military and summarizes mental health diagnoses during the year prior to initial clinical diagnoses schizophrenia. During 2001-2010, 3,000 service members met the case definition of schizophrenia (incidence rate: 21 per 100,000 person years). Rates declined with increasing age. Of those diagnosed with schizophrenia, 71% had at least one mental health-related medical encounter during the preceding 12 months; 51% received at least one antecedent diagnosis of paranoia. The findings may inform a model to predict the likelihood and timing of clinical manifestations of schizophrenia among U.S. military members. [Medical Surveillance Monthly Report](#)

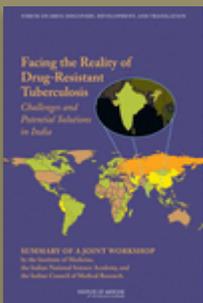
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**Drug-Resistant  
Tuberculosis:  
Challenges and  
Potential Solutions  
in India**

Although antibiotics to treat TB were developed in the 1950s and are effective against a majority of TB cases, resistance to these antibiotics has emerged over the years, resulting in the growing spread of multidrug-resistant (MDR) TB.

Due to challenges in timely and accurate diagnosis of drug-resistant TB, length and tolerability of treatment regimens, and expense of second-line anti-TB drugs, effectively controlling the disease requires complex public health interventions.

The aim of the IOM workshop was to highlight key challenges to controlling the spread of drug-resistant strains of TB in India and to discuss strategies for advancing and integrating local and international efforts to prevent and treat drug-resistant TB. This document summarizes the workshop.



## Analysis finds clinical trials often small, of poor quality

1 May - A new analysis of registered U.S. clinical trials -- the research that seeks to determine if medical treatments and prevention strategies work -- finds that many are small and of poor quality. Studies of cancer treatments, in particular, often fail to follow the highest standards of medical research, the analysis found. Meanwhile, a full 7 percent of the studies didn't bother to mention their purpose, while others failed to provide other important details. "We think expert groups need to start scrutinizing the database more and really examine the quality of the trials one by one," said report author Dr. Robert Califf, vice chancellor for clinical and translational research at Duke University. "For the first time, we have a chance to look at the entire universe [of clinical research] and we can see that we can do better." Califf and his colleagues examined the Clinicaltrials.gov database, which includes medical research studies that enroll people. By law in the United States, many kinds of studies must be registered in this database. [Medline Plus](#)

## As preterm births soar globally, U.S. ranks 130 of 184

2 May - The world's developed countries have seen their average rate of premature births double to 6 percent since 1995, despite efforts to reduce the phenomenon, according to a report released on Wednesday. Worldwide, 15 million of the 135 million babies born in 2010 were premature and 1.1 million died, according to the "Born Too Soon" report, which was compiled as part of the United Nations' "Every Woman Every Child" initiative. The report, three years in the making and written by experts from 11 countries, is intended to draw attention to the problem and attract donations from governments and charities to solve it. The study analyzes preterm births (before 37 weeks of the full 40-week gestation) in 184 nations, more than ever previously studied. Of the 65 developed countries that have kept reliable data over the years, only Croatia, Ecuador and Estonia have cut their rate of preterm births since the 1990s. In the other 62, despite programs to, for instance, improve pre-natal care and reduce the number of Cesarean sections, premature births increased from an average of about 3 percent to 6 percent. [Reuters](#)

## Plasma flashlight kills bacteria

26 April - A plasma flashlight -- a torch that emits a plasma jet that kills bacteria on the skin in an instant -- is being developed by a group of Chinese and Australian scientists, including from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), and is designed to be completely mobile, light, efficient and works at room temperature. Due to its mobility it could be used in ambulance emergency calls, natural disaster sites, military combat operations and many other instances where treatment is required in remote locations. [Infection Control Today](#)

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## INFLUENZA

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### Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center: DoD Influenza Surveillance Summary

3 May 2012:

- No influenza cases among shipboard populations were detected last week.
- The overall influenza activity remains low to moderate in overseas DoD laboratory surveillance networks and the activity level continues to decrease within the MHS from previous weeks. [AFHSC DoD Influenza Surveillance Summary](#)

### CDC: Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

During week 16 (15-21 April 2012), influenza activity was elevated in some areas of the United States, but declined nationally and in most regions. [FluView](#)

### European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control: Weekly Influenza Surveillance Overview

4 May - Apart from Slovakia which reported medium intensity, all reporting countries experienced low-intensity influenza activity. [Weekly Influenza Surveillance Overview](#)

### Naval Health Research Center: Febrile Respiratory Illness Surveillance Update

For the week ending 28 April 2012:

#### Adenovirus

- Vaccination against types 4 and 7 adenovirus was instituted at all basic training centers by mid-November 2011 (week 45).
- FRI rates and the proportion of FRI cases positive for adenovirus have decreased markedly since vaccine was reintroduced.
- Type 14 adenovirus is present at MCRD Parris Island.
- A [MSMR paper on the initial impact of adenovirus vaccine resumption](#) was recently published.

FRI surveillance at all eight U.S. military basic training centers indicated FRI rates were at or below expected values. [NHRC Febrile Respiratory Illness Surveillance Update](#)

## PANDEMIC AND AVIAN INFLUENZA

### Indonesia: Avian influenza situation, WHO update

2 May – The Indonesian IHR National Focal Point of the Ministry of Health has notified WHO of a new case of human infection with avian influenza A(H5N1) virus. The case is a 2 year-old male from Riau Province. He developed fever on 17 April 2012 and was hospitalized on 21 April 2012 but he died on 27 April 2012. Epidemiological investigation is ongoing. Preliminary findings indicate that the case's parents are quail egg vendors. The case was confirmed by the National Institute of Health Research and Development (NIHRD), Ministry of Health. To date, of the 189 cases reported in Indonesia since 2005, 157 have been fatal.

[WHO](#)

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## VETERINARY/FOOD SAFETY

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### Europe, Netherlands: Schmallenberg virus, no human infection

1 May - In total, 301 persons were tested for antibodies to SBV by virus neutralization test. All sera tested negative, whereas high levels of antibody were found in serum from an infected animal that was used as a control. The study population consisted of 234 persons working or living on SBV-infected farms, and 67 veterinarians -- all with known exposure to SBV-infected herds. Of these, 229 persons had direct exposure to newborn calves, lambs, and/or birthing materials from SBV-infected herds, and 150 persons reported exposure to biting insects. We conclude that there is no evidence for zoonotic infection. [ProMED-mail](#)

### New foot and mouth strain spreads to Gaza Strip

2 May - A new strain of foot and mouth disease (FMD) has reached the Gaza Strip and threatens to spread further after first being detected in Egypt and Libya in February, the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said on Wednesday. FAO said sick animals had been detected on April 19 in Rafah, a town that lies on the border between the coastal Palestinian territory and Egypt. [Reuters](#)

### Synthetic stool a prospective treatment for *C. difficile*

30 April - A synthetic mixture of intestinal bacteria could one day replace stool transplants as a treatment for *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*). *C. difficile* is a toxin-producing bacteria that can overpopulate the colon when antibiotics eradicate other, naturally protective bacteria living there. "A synthetic stool transplant has a lot of potential because we can control what goes in and we can alter, change, or modify it as necessary," says Elaine Petrof, an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine at Queen's University and in the

Gastrointestinal Disease Research Unit (GIDRU) at Kingston General Hospital. Petrof and her collaborator at the University of Guelph, Emma Allen-Vercoe, believe that a stool compound made from synthetic or "purified" bacteria could significantly improve on regular stool transplants. It could eliminate the chance of transmitting an infectious disease through fecal bacteria; physicians could tailor the mixture so as to increase patient acceptance; it would be easily reproducible; and, it may appeal to both doctors and patients as a 'cleaner' therapy. [Infection Control Today](#)

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## WELLNESS

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### Anxiety, depression often go hand-in-hand with arthritis

30 April - Depression or anxiety affect one-third of Americans with arthritis who are aged 45 or older, a new study shows. Researchers from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also found that even though anxiety is nearly twice as common as depression among people with arthritis, doctors tend to focus more on depression in these patients. The study included nearly 1,800 people with arthritis or other rheumatic conditions who took part in the CDC's Arthritis Conditions and Health Effects Survey. Among the study participants, 31 percent reported anxiety and 18 percent reported depression. One-third of the patients reported at least one of the two conditions and 84 percent of those with depression also had anxiety. Only half of those with anxiety or depression sought mental health treatment in the previous year, according to the study, which was published in the April 30 issue of the journal *Arthritis Care & Research*. [Health Day](#)

### Can blood test predict breast cancer risk?



1 May - A blood test that spots changes in a specific gene could reveal a woman's risk for breast cancer years before the disease has a chance to develop, researchers report. British scientists analyzed blood samples from 640 breast cancer patients and 741 women without breast cancer. The samples from the breast cancer patients were collected an average of three years before they were diagnosed with the disease. The objective was to find out if the alteration of single genes by a process called methylation could predict a woman's breast cancer risk. [Medline Plus](#)

### Garlic compound fights source of foodborne illness better than antibiotics

1 May - Researchers at Washington State University have found that a compound in garlic is 100 times more effective than two popular antibiotics at fighting the *Campylobacter* bacterium, one of the most common causes of intestinal illness. Their work was recently published in the *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy*. The discovery opens the door to new treatments for raw and processed meats and food preparation surfaces. "This work is

very exciting to me because it shows that this compound has the potential to reduce disease-causing bacteria in the environment and in our food supply," says Dr. Xiaonan Lu, a postdoctoral researcher and lead author of the paper. "This is the first step in developing or thinking about new intervention strategies," says Michael Konkel, a co-author who has been researching *Campylobacter jejuni* for 25 years. "Campylobacter," says Konkel, "is simply the most common bacterial cause of food-borne illness in the United States and probably the world." Some 2.4 million Americans are affected every year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, with symptoms including diarrhea, cramping, abdominal pain and fever. The bacteria are also responsible for triggering nearly one-third of the cases of a rare paralyzing disorder known as Guillain-Barré syndrome. [Infection Control Today](#)

## Healthy weight loss may also cut your cancer risk

1 May - Moderate weight loss reduces levels of inflammation that have been tied to certain cancers, at least in postmenopausal women, a new study suggests. According to the findings, older women who lost at least 5 percent of their body weight through diet alone or diet plus exercise showed significant reductions in key inflammatory blood markers such as C-reactive protein and interleukin-6. In addition to risk for heart disease, elevated levels of these markers have also been associated with increased risk for several cancers, including breast, colon, lung and endometrial cancer. The findings appear May 1 in the journal *Cancer Research*. [Medline Plus](#)

## Here are the women who need mammograms in their 40s



30 April - A new analysis that may help women in their 40s interpret mammogram guidelines says those with a family history of breast cancer or extremely dense breast tissue should start getting regular screenings. The benefits of getting a mammogram every two years outweigh the risks for these particular women, who are at increased risk for developing breast cancer, according to the U.S. National Cancer Institute-funded study. "Among a group of women who have twice the average level of risk, screening every other year starting at age 40 has the same balance of benefit and harms as starting at age 50," said researcher Dr. Jeanne Mandelblatt, associate director for population sciences at Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center in Washington, D.C. [HealthDay](#)

## U.S. sees sharp rise in newborns with opiate withdrawal

30 April - The number of babies born in the US showing symptoms of opiate withdrawal increased threefold in the 10 years up to 2009, a medical study has found. The research, published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, said one in every 1,000 newborns was affected in 2009. The number of pregnant women testing positive for illegal or legal opiates increased fivefold in the same period. The report says abuse of prescription painkillers is partly to blame. The study, the first of its kind in the US, was based on records from more than 4,000 hospitals across the country. [BBC News](#)

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## Africa: HIV funding boosts general health services - study

3 May - The debate within the global health community about the impact of dedicated HIV/Aids funding on general public health services has been taken a step further with a study showing that funding dedicated to HIV/Aids does not undermine health funding for other diseases. A six-year long study in Rwanda published in the May 2012 issue of the American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, found that when rural health clinics expanded Aids services, these efforts had no adverse effects on other types of health care. The study's lead author, Donald S. Shepard - a professor at Brandeis University's Schneider Institute for Health Policy - added that there was "even evidence that clinics that have received funding for HIV/Aids services provide better care for all patients, including superior prevention services, than do clinics without Aids programmes." [All Africa](#)

## Democratic Republic of Congo: Poor sanitation systems hinder fight against cholera



30 April - More than 7,500 cholera cases have been identified in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) since the beginning of the year as an epidemic that began in June 2011 continues to affect parts of the capital, Kinshasa, as well as four other provinces. In total, more than 30,000 cholera cases have been identified around the country since the epidemic started, while 230 people have succumbed to the disease since the beginning of the year, and more than 700 since June 2011. In addition to Kinshasa, the provinces of Orientale, North Kivu, Equateur and Bas Congo are currently experiencing outbreaks. According to Nona Zicherman, chief of emergency operations in DRC for the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the epidemic has continued largely because of "poor hygiene, lack of awareness of the population about transmission mechanisms, very limited access to protected and monitored water sources and lack of sanitation infrastructure." [IRIN](#)

## Gambia: 61,000 locals would be infected with diabetes by 2030

24 April - 'In 2010, the World Health Organisation (WHO) estimated that 61, 000 people in the Gambia would have diabetes by 2030, which is about 4% of the current population which is not too far from the global estimates'. This revelation is contained in a statement read on behalf of the minister of Health and Social Welfare, Fatim Badjie, by Dr Ahmed Secka, chief medical director of RVTH during The Gambia Medical and Dental Association's annual scientific meeting held recently at the Kairaba Beach Hotel. The meeting was organised in collaboration with Urolink, a medical organisation, based in Europe. The meeting centred on recent advances in the management of Diabetes with special references to developing countries, a theme described by the Health minister as timely to the current

prevailing challenges being experienced locally and globally within the health sector. According to her, man has come a long way through his survival and non sedentary networks; commenting that man doesn't necessarily need to move further than his surroundings now basically he can continuously consume fatty, salty and sugary foods, and such attitude is consistently creeping into our society at an alarming rate in the light of globalisation, as televisions and internet have in one way or the other with the rapid changing information technology increased vulnerability due to poverty. [All Africa](#)

## Somalia: UNICEF, thousands of children at risk



1 May – The [United Nations Children's Fund](#) warned that thousands of acutely malnourished children in Somalia are at risk of death because little money is available to help them. UNICEF said it has received only 12 percent of its \$289 million emergency appeal for humanitarian operations this year. The

famine declared in southern Somalia last year is over. But, that does not mean that the crisis is finished. Somalia remains the world's most complex humanitarian situation. The U.N. Children's Fund reported that almost one-third of Somalis are unable to meet their essential food and non-food needs. About 70 percent of these people live in south and central Somalia, areas that have been wracked by conflict for years and recurrent drought. [VOA News](#)

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### USCENTCOM

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## Pakistan: Leishmaniasis, cutaneous

29 April - The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Health Department has sought help from the World Health Organization (WHO) to contain an outbreak of cutaneous leishmaniasis (CL), an official said. WHO is to spend USD 9.6m to help residents of KP, FATA KP to set up 700 community health centres. "During the last three months, about 889 cases of CL have been recorded from 14 districts," Dr Muhammad Iqbal of the Health Department told Central Asia Online on 25 April. "We have requested the WHO to intervene." Nowshera District had the most cases, 214, he said. KP is requesting injectable medicines and help with insecticide spraying, he said, adding that patients cannot afford the 3500 Pak rupees (USD 39) cost of CL treatment. CL is a skin infection, transmitted by sand flies. [ProMED-mail](#)

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## USEUCOM

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### United Kingdom trial for portable brain-cooling device



2 May - A trial has begun of a portable brain-cooling device which could enhance the survival prospects of cardiac patients. Ground-based cars in the service of the charity London's Air Ambulance are the first in the UK to carry the Rhinocill machine. Larger brain-cooling devices are already used in UK hospitals on cardiac and stroke patients to aid recovery. But cooling the body earlier in the field, during resuscitation, could save more lives, early research suggests. "We know quite well that if you're cooled after your heart attack, it can not only mean that your chances of surviving are greatly increased, but your chances of surviving without brain damage are too," Dr Richard Lyon, a registrar with London's Air Ambulance, told BBC News. "For the last 10 years or so, the big thrust has been to cool you as quickly as possible, but usually after you get delivered to hospital, after your heart has been restarted. What we're doing is bringing everything much further forward - starting this brain-cooling process while CPR is still being carried out in the field." [BBC News](#)

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## USNORTHCOM

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### U.S.: FDA approves new antibacterial treatment for plague

30 April - The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) today approved Levaquin (levofloxacin) to treat patients with plague, a rare and potentially deadly bacterial infection. The agency also approved the drug to reduce the risk of getting plague after exposure to *Yersinia pestis*, the bacterium that causes the disease. Plague is extremely rare in most parts of the world, including the United States, with 1,000 to 2,000 cases worldwide each year. The three most common forms of plague are bubonic plague (infection of the lymph nodes), pneumonic plague (infection of the lungs), and septicemic plague (infection of the blood). Primarily an animal disease, plague can be spread to humans through bites from infected fleas, contact with infected animals or humans, or laboratory exposure. *Yersinia pestis* also is considered a biological threat agent, which could potentially be used as a bioterrorism agent. The FDA approved Levaquin for plague under the agency's Animal Efficacy Rule, which allows efficacy findings from adequate and well-controlled animal studies to be used in cases where it is not feasible or ethical to conduct trials in humans. Because plague is such a rare disease, it would not be possible to conduct adequate efficacy trials in humans.

[Infection Control Today](#)

## U.S. health centers for poor, uninsured see ranks swell

1 May - U.S. community health centers that cater to the poor and uninsured saw their patients' ranks swell by nearly 18 percent from 2008 to 2011 as job loss left more Americans without health insurance, the Obama administration said on Tuesday. A report released by the White House said 20 million Americans now receive healthcare services through 8,500 community health centers, up from 17 million four years ago. "Those numbers really took a big jump," Mary Wakefield, who heads the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration, told reporters. "A lot of those folks were people who, when they lost their jobs early on, lost their coverage." [Reuters](#)

## U.S.: New rules set for school immunizations

30 April - Health officials are using National Infant Immunization Week to highlight the importance of vaccinations by urging parents to make sure their children are up-to-date on their immunizations for school. For the first time, all Illinois students entering sixth and ninth grades during the 2012-2013 school year will be required to have a school physical and show proof of receiving the Tdap vaccine, which protects pre-teens, adolescents and adults against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis, or whooping cough. As the law stands, students either must comply or otherwise have an appointment scheduled or an approved medical or religious exemption on file to be allowed to attend school. "Although we are approaching the end of the school year for many students, now is the time for parents to start scheduling appointments for next year's school immunization requirements," the acting director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, Dr. Arthur F. Kohrman, said in a news release. "While the department has recommended for several years that children entering the sixth grade receive the Tdap vaccine during their physical exam, it will be required this year for students entering both the sixth and ninth grades," he said. "Immunization is one of the best ways parents can protect their children against serious diseases, so start scheduling appointments now." [The Telegraph](#)

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## USPACOM

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## Asia: Containing anti-malarial drug resistance in Mekong



26 April - Resistance to an anti-malaria drug, artemisinin, is suspected along the Thailand-Myanmar border and in southern Vietnam, but scientists are hoping that it can be contained. Artemisinin resistance emerged on the Thailand-Cambodia border around eight years ago. Resistance - the ability of the malaria parasite to survive drugs intended to kill it quickly - to chloroquine, an antimalarial previously widely used, forced treatment to change in the early 1970s and also originated in what is known as the [Greater Mekong sub-region](#), which includes Cambodia, the southern

provinces of China, Lao, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. Chloroquine resistance spread to India and then to sub-Saharan Africa, which has the world's highest burden of the disease. Decades later, faced with another bout of resistance, officials are cautiously optimistic about preventing the spread of resistance to artemisinin. [IRIN](#)

## India: Malaria

2 May - Despite the monsoon rains not arriving in [Bantwal] taluk [administrative division], 28 cases of malaria have been detected already. This was revealed during the taluk quarterly KDP [Karnataka Development Programme] meeting held at SGSY auditorium, BC Road, on [Mon 30 Apr 2012]. Taluk health officer Dr Deepa Prabhu revealed this at the KDP meeting chaired by MLA [Member of Legislative Assembly] Ramanath Rai [in Bantwal] on Mon 30 Apr 2012. "Out of the 28 cases of malaria detected in the taluk, 7 were reported from Kurnad primary health centre, and 21 from different primary health centers across the taluk," added Dr Prabhu. [ProMED-mail](#)

## India: Scores dead in ferry sinking; hope for survivors dwindles



1 May - Rescue workers searched Tuesday for the remains of about 160 people who were still missing, 24 hours after an overcrowded ferry broke apart and sank in the Brahmaputra river during a severe storm in eastern India. The bodies of more than 100 of the 350 people who were aboard the double-decker ferry when it capsized Monday have already been recovered. With every passing hour, rescuers said, hopes of finding live passengers dwindled... The ferry sank late Monday in the Dhubri district of the eastern state of Assam, near where the river flows into Bangladesh. Many passengers jumped from the rocking boat in panic, one official said. Passengers on the upper deck fared better than those who were trapped in the lower portion of the boat.

[Washington Post](#)

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## USSOUTHCOM

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## Brazil: Encephalitis outbreak

28 April - Teams from the Agency of Health Surveillance, Central Laboratory of Public Health - LACEN, the Center for Research in Tropical Diseases - Cepem, and the Secretariat of Health of Porto Velho joined throughout the day on Monday 23 [April / 2012], the staff of the Secretariat of Health Spiker West to study, discuss and investigate the facts that caused an outbreak of encephalitis and meningoencephalitis in some cases at least 7 children students of Monteiro Lobato. The Medical Cepem, Mauro said the team works with the hypothesis of transmission of the disease have occurred by the bite of an insect, since the forest

surrounding the outbreak of the disease is inhabited by primates (monkeys) and vectors. In the research team found pockets of *Aedes aegypti*, but the technicians are also investigating the possibility of disease being transmitted by porvinha [gender *Culicoides* - Mod RNA] - a species of mosquito that transmits very kid a number of diseases. [ProMED-mail](#) via Google Translate

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