

ZOONEWS FOR KITSAP VETS

A seasonal report on zoonotic disease trends and news of interest

Winter 2014

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER IN THE NEW YEAR from Beth Lipton, DVM MPH

In this issue we look at collaborative efforts locally and globally to decrease zoonotic diseases. We highlight a Washington State program focusing on tick-borne disease surveillance and we share the goals of an international effort to initiate cross-species disease surveillance as well as medical integration.

We're also encouraging pet and human emergency preparedness collaborations by sending a copy of the American Public Health Association (APHA) 2014 "Pup-preparedness" calendar. For more preparedness tips go to: www.aphagetready.org.



Get Ready 2014
Pup-preparedness
Calendar



TICK SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

Since the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) launched a tick surveillance project funded by the CDC, over 1,000 *Ixodes* and *Dermacentor* ticks have been tested for organisms causing tick-borne disease, including Lyme, Anaplasmosis, Babesia, RMSF, and Tularemia. Testing results from this past summer found 2.3% of *Ixodes* ticks positive for *B. burgdoferi* (Lyme) and 0.6% for *A. phagocytophilum* (Anaplasmosis). No ticks were positive for either organism in Kitsap, but positive ticks for both organisms were found in Mason County and for *B. burgdoferi* in Clallam County. Six Kitsap vets and one Fish & Wildlife biologist as well as 2 vets in Clallam County provided samples.

"These are really exciting results," says Liz Dykstra, Public Health Entomologist with the DOH Zoonotic Disease Program, "and we are so appreciative of the incredible amount of support and ticks we've received from veterinarians and other partners from across the state. Tick season for *Ixodes* generally gets going in February and we welcome any new partners who are interested in helping out." Anyone interested in participating in the project can contact Liz at elizabeth.dykstra@doh.wa.gov.

NOTIFIABLE NEWS

Case counts of many notifiable diseases were low in Kitsap during 2013 (Table 1). Counts of disease in WA State were similar to previous years, with fewer West Nile Virus human cases, and more rabies suspected exposures to humans. Between May and October, a Kitsap bat submitted for rabies testing was positive, along with 11 other bats from across the state. It is estimated that approximately 1% of all bats in the wild are positive for rabies; of those that are submitted for testing, about 5-10% are positive.

REPORT NOTIFIABLE CONDITIONS TO KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH 24/7

During business hours call 360-337-5235.
After hours call 1-360-415-2005 or 911.

Table 1. Selected Notifiable Conditions (# of cases)

	Kitsap County		Washington State	
	Yearly average 2010-12	2013	Yearly average 2010-12	2013
Human Cases:				
Brucellosis	0	0	0	1
Cryptococcus gattii	0	0	4	4
Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome	0	0	2	0
Leptospirosis	0	0	0.7	0
Lyme disease	0.7	1	17	17
Plague	0	0	0	0
Psittacosis	0	0	0	0
Q Fever	0	0	5	4
Tularemia	0	0	4	4
Rabies suspected exposures	7	5	181	277
West Nile Virus	0	0	15	1
Animal Surveillance:				
Positive rabies in bats tested	0.3	1	11	12
Cryptococcus gattii	0	0	10	4
West Nile Virus: mammals	0	0	0	2
West Nile Virus: birds	0	0	1	0
West Nile Virus: mosquitoes	0	0	45	18

Note: 2013 case counts are preliminary and may change as case information is reviewed.



KITSAP PUBLIC
HEALTH DISTRICT

345 6th Street
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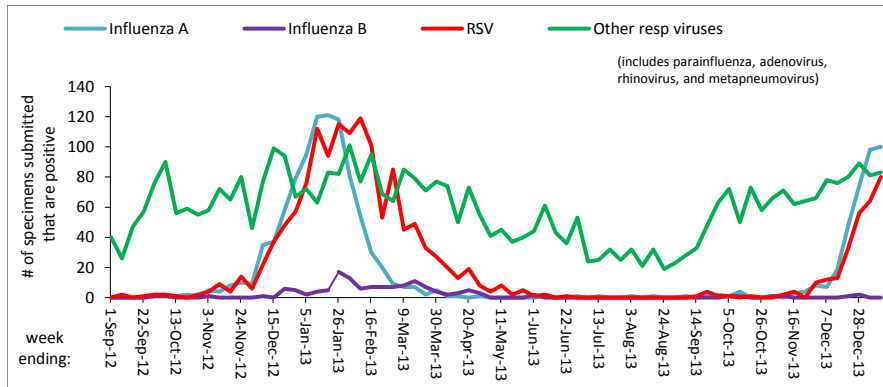
360-337-5235 t.
360-337-5291 f.

kitsappublichealth.org

COLD AND FLU SEASON IS HERE

If you haven't gotten your flu shot yet, now is the time! Cold and flu season is in full swing. Influenza (flu) activity in Washington State increased significantly during December (Figure 1) and is currently widespread. The proportion of

Figure 1. Positive Specimens, University of Washington Virology Laboratory (weeks ending 9/1/2012 to 12/28/13)



emergency room visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) is above the baseline in both western and eastern Washington. Nearly all influenza viruses recently detected in lab specimens tested by World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Labs in our state were influenza A (2009 H1N1) viruses. Nineteen laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated deaths have been reported to the state this flu season, including one Kitsap resident. RSV and other respiratory viruses also increased during the month of December.

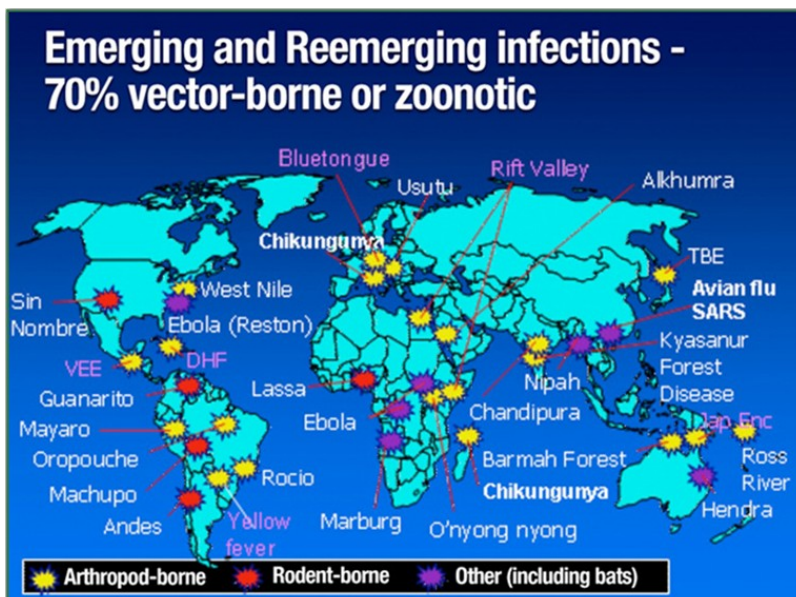
ONE HEALTH COLLABORATION ACROSS DISCIPLINES

Vector-borne or zoonotic diseases account for a full 70% of emerging and re-emerging infections in the world (Figure 2). This statistic is one of the catalysts behind the One Health Initiative's global efforts to improve the lives of all species by promoting co-equal, all inclusive collaborations between physicians, osteopaths, veterinarians, dentists, nurses and other scientific-health and environmentally related disciplines. An example of interdisciplinary efforts that illustrate the Initiative is between animal health and human health industries and regulators working to provide more vaccines that protect domestic animals and wildlife, thereby establishing effective barriers against human infections. This is important as animal vaccine development is less expensive and less strictly regulated than it is for humans.

One Health's vision includes joint human, veterinary, public health and environmental efforts in education, communications, clinical care, disease surveillance, and understanding of disease transmission. Learn more about the One Health Initiative at www.onehealthinitiative.com or read their newsletter www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-from-animals/one-health-newsletter/index.html.

Figure 2.

Source: One Health Initiative



BOOKS TO CHECK OUT

Some We Love, Some We Hate, Some We Eat by Hal Herzog Ph.D, is an "exploration of the psychology behind the inconsistent and often paradoxical ways we think, feel, and behave toward animals."

Cat Sense: How the New Feline Science Can Make You a Better Friend to Your Pet by John Bradshaw, an anthrozoologist, takes the reader "further into the mind of the domestic cat using . . . scientific research to dispel the myths and explain the true nature of our feline friends."

Dog Sense: How the New Science of Dog Behavior Can Make You A Better Friend to Your Pet also by John Bradshaw uses . . . "research into human-animal interactions to show us the world from a dog's perspective, teaching us how to live in harmony with—not just dominion over—our four-legged friends."

Summary source: Amazon.com