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Arboviral Illness Update: West Nile Virus (WNV) Identified in Mosquito Batch in Manchester, NH

Key Points and Recommendations:

1. The first detection of West Nile Virus (WNV) in New Hampshire for 2018 has occurred in a mosquito batch from Manchester, NH.
2. Health care providers should consider mosquito-borne diseases, including WNV, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), and Jamestown Canyon Virus (JCV) in patients presenting with compatible clinical syndromes regardless of the presence or absence of positive mosquito or veterinary testing in their community.
3. For more information about these mosquito-borne diseases in New Hampshire, please review our recent HAN:
<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/alerts/documents/mosquito-2018.pdf>
4. Laboratory testing for mosquito-borne diseases can be arranged by calling 603-271-4496 during business hours (1-800-852-3345 ext. 5300 after hours). Testing information is available at: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/lab/documents/labrequisition.pdf>.
5. Healthcare providers should report suspected and confirmed cases of mosquito-borne diseases to the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at 603-271-4496 (after hours 1-800-852-3345 ext. 5300).

Background

From the beginning of July through mid-October, the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS) supports local communities to trap and test mosquitoes for WNV and EEE to help determine if these viruses are circulating in local mosquito populations; testing of mosquitoes for JCV is not currently performed in NH. NH DHHS has identified the first WNV-positive mosquito batch of the 2018 season. The mosquitoes were trapped in Manchester, NH on July 16, 2018. Identification of WNV in mosquitoes highlights the importance of preventing mosquito bites.

Mosquito trapping and testing, however, occurs at limited sites in the state, primarily in the southern and southeastern parts of NH (See map below). The absence of positive mosquito tests does not mean that WNV and EEE are not potentially circulating in your local communities. There have been detections of WNV and EEE throughout NH in prior years, including areas outside of where mosquito surveillance is currently focused. Healthcare providers should consider testing patients for mosquito-borne diseases, including WNV, EEE, and JCV in patients who present with compatible clinical syndromes.

**NH DHHS-DPHS
NH-HAN #20180726 Arboviral Illness Update**

For any questions regarding the contents of this message, please contact NH DHHS Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at 603-271-4496 (after hours 1-800-852-3345 ext. 5300).

To change your contact information in the NH Health Alert Network, contact Adnela Alic at 603-271-7499 or email adnela.alic@dhhs.nh.gov.

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