International Health Surveillance Division (IHS)

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Health Information Update

Source: WHO, Event Information Site for IHR National Focal

Event Updates: **01 October 2019**

Event Updated	Country	Hazard	Disease	Event Description	IHR Assessment
2019-10-01	**Brazil**	**Infectious**	**<u>AETIOLOGY:</u> Whole and broken tubes containing freeze-dried material from *smallpox vaccine***	**On 26 September 2019, the Brazil IHR National Focal Point (NFP) notified the discovery of tubes (whole and broken tubes) containing lyophilized materials from smallpox vaccine (5% intact and 95% fragmented) in addition to other glassware and animal carcasses. The area where the tubes were found is adjacent to a former vaccine manufacturing facility in the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ), in the state of Rio de Janeiro. Apparently, the adjacent area was used as a vaccine disposal site in the early 1970's.** On 28 September, the material was collected and safely secured on the BSL3 laboratory in the FIOCRUZ. On 29th September, the material collected was sent to be tested at the BSL3 lab of the Biology Institute of the Brazilian Army in Rio, by qPCR analysis. Based on the information available regarding the discovery of whole and broken tubes containing lyophilized smallpox vaccine (vaccinia virus of *Orthopoxvirus* genus) in the vicinity of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Rio de Janeiro State, ***the current risk is low at national level***. The event is localised therefore the ***risk at global and regional level is assessed as low.*** <u>This event is considered high profile because of the potential consequences of inadequate containment of biological agents, including vaccines, and underscores the importance of biosecurity and safe handling of vaccine and other biological materials.</u> WHO does not recommend any restriction on travel and/or trade to Brazil based on the current available information.	**To be assigned**

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2019-10-01	**Nigeria**	**Infectious**	**Yellow Fever**	**On 29 August 2019, a PCR positive yellow fever case was reported from Kano state with a travel history to Yankari Game Reserve, Alkaleri LGA, Bauchi in August 2019. From 29 August 2019 through 22 September 2019, Nigeria reported an outbreak of yellow fever with an epi-centre in the Yankari Game Reserve of Alkaleri LGA, Bauchi state, affecting both local residents and visitors from 4 states: Bauchi (110), Borno (109), Gombe (10), and Kano (2). According to Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), 231 suspected yellow fever cases with an epidemiological link to Bauchi State in northern Nigeria have been reported including 15 deaths. Of these 231 suspected cases, 13 cases are presumptive positive by IgM testing. These were from Bauchi (6), Borno (6), and Gombe (1). While 24 have been confirmed by RT-PCR by a national laboratory in Nigeria (20 cases from Bauchi, 1 from Kano and 3 from Gombe State). Six deaths have been reported among confirmed cases, all from Alkaleri LGA, Bauchi State. The detailed vaccination history for the 231 suspected cases is not known.** Results of follow-up testing from regional reference laboratory Institute Pasteur Dakar (IPD) including differential testing and seroneutralisation are not available yet. ***There is currently a moderate risk at regional level*** due to the possible movement of the individuals of affected states to adjacent areas and neighbouring countries. ***The current overall risk is low at the global level.*** WHO advises against the application of any travel or trade restrictions on Nigeria. Yellow fever vaccination is a mandatory requirement for international travellers over the age of 9 months coming to Nigeria.	**Public Health Risk**

*A **public health risk** is something that is (or is likely to be) hazardous to human **health** or could contribute to a disease or an infectious condition in humans.