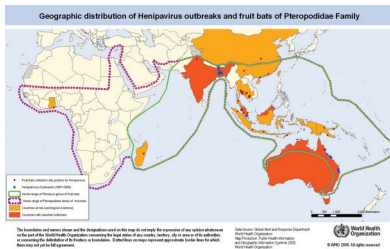




Aka: **Henipah virus, NiV, Nipah virus encephalitis**

Where is it found?

INDIA (KERALA)
SOUTHEAST ASIA
BANGLADESH
MALAYSIA,...



Notes:

Newly emerging zoonosis that causes severe (often fatal) disease in humans.

Recent outbreaks in Kerala and Southern India, Malaysia, and Bangladesh.

Nipah virus

The infection has killed virtually all of its victims in India.

RARE. A brain-damaging virus that is a possible epidemic threat and recently had new breakouts in the state of Kerala, India, infecting at least 18 people, killing 17 of them, according to the World Health Organization.

The Nipah virus naturally resides in fruit bats across South and Southeast Asia. It was first identified during an outbreak in 1998 among pig farmers in Malaysia, where it killed over 100 people and led to the slaughtering of more than one million pigs. Cases now appear almost annually in Bangladesh.

Mortality rate is 45-70% but has been higher due to being relatively new and undiagnosed. There is no vaccine and no cure.

Transmission

Pigs were the intermediate hosts in Malaysia (The virus is highly contagious in pigs). In subsequent NiV outbreaks, there were no intermediate hosts. In Bangladesh in 2004, humans became infected with NiV as a result of consuming date palm sap that had been contaminated by infected fruit bats. In Bangladesh and India, consumption of fruits or fruit products (such as raw date palm juice) contaminated with urine or saliva from infected fruit bats was also a likely source of infection.

The current outbreak likely began when people drew water from a bat-infested well. Human-to-human transmission has also been documented, including in a hospital setting in India.

Symptoms

Flu-like symptoms, including fevers, body aches and vomiting. Often progresses to acute respiratory syndrome and fatal encephalitis, or brain inflammation. Encephalitis and seizures occur in severe cases, progressing to coma within 24 to 48 hours. Some survivors show persistent neurological effects, including personality changes.

The incubation period is believed to range from 4 to 14 days. However, an incubation period as long as 45 days has been reported.

Prevention and Treatment:

There is no vaccine for either humans or animals. The primary treatment for human cases is intensive supportive care. Also for severe respiratory and neurologic complications. Some doctors suggest the drug, ribavirin, may be useful. The WHO has not recommended any travel or trade restrictions for the region.

More Info: <http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/nipah-virus>
<https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/nipah/index.html>
https://www.medicinenet.com/nipah_virus_infection/article.htm

This whitepaper is an update to our Free Travel Medical Guide



Available at:

www.gninsurance.com/free-travel-medical-guide/