EPIEMIOLOGY OF ALVEOLAR ECHINOCOCCOSIS IN EUROPE:

Monitoring and Control Perspectives

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND NEW TRENDS

CALL FOR COMMUNICATION

Technopôle Agro-Vétérinaire – Domaine de Pixérécourt

NANCY (France) – 8th and 9th of December 2010
Alveolar echinococcosis (AE) is a zoonosis of major concern in continental Europe. In the last decades, a marked geographical extension of its distribution range has been reported as well as a large increase of its prevalence throughout its historical endemic areas. Furthermore, the red fox, the main definitive host of *Echinococcus multilocularis*, is currently settled in urbanized areas including major European cities where evidence of urban life cycles has been provided. This pictures an increased proximity between humans and the parasite with possibly higher exposure and risk.

Researchers and practitioners are currently working in most European countries (including Switzerland) in various fields such as human and veterinary epidemiology, ecology, geography, prevention and public health in order to understand *E. multilocularis* transmission patterns and processes, monitor spatial and temporal evolution, implement and evaluate prevention and control strategies.

The aim of this workshop is to get a state of the art about the current status of *E. multilocularis* in Europe, to optimize monitoring and control of the spread of this zoonosis and to limit its impact on human health. The Entente Rage et Zoonoses (ERZ), the AFSSA-Nancy and the WHO Collaborating Center on Prevention and Treatment of Human Echinococcosis of the University of Franche-Comté and university hospital of Besançon (UFC – WHO Collaborating Center) organize a European symposium on the epidemiology of alveolar echinococcosis, to be held on the 8th and 9th of December 2010, in Nancy (France).

**ACCORDING TO THE EFSA’s REPORT ENTITLED “DEVELOPMENT OF HARMONISED SCHEMES FOR THE MONITORING AND REPORTING OF ECHINOCOCCUS IN ANIMALS AND FOODSTUFFS IN EUROPE” MAIN OBJECTIVES HAVE BEEN DEFINED IN ORDER TO ALLOW FAST DELIVERY OF OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES ON MONITORING AND CONTROL OF AE IN EUROPE:**

1° To determine the geographical distribution of *E. multilocularis* in each country;

2° To evaluate control strategies;

3° To assess the distribution of human cases in 2010 and to present advances in diagnostic methods.

**Steering Committee:**
AFSSA (French Food Safety Agency) - National Reference Laboratory for *Echinococcus*
ERZ: French Association for Rabies and Zoonotic Diseases Control.

**The Scientific Committee is composed of:**
Dr. A. BERLIOZ-ARThAUD: Head of the AFSSA-Nancy laboratory
Dr. F. BOUE: AFSSA-Nancy, Head of the Wildlife Diseases Unit and the French National Reference Laboratory for *Echinococcus*.
Pr. S. BRESSON-HADNI: WHO Collaborating Center, Medical referee in hepatology
Pr. P. GIRAUDOUX: UFC - WHO Collaborating Center, Professor of ecology
Dr. F. GRENOUILLET: UFC - WHO Collaborating Center, Hospital physician in parasitology
Pr. G. MANTION: UFC - WHO Collaborating Center, Professor of surgery
Pr. L. MILLON: UFC - WHO Collaborating Center, Professor of parasitology
Dr. F. RAOUL: UFC - WHO Collaborating Center, Associate-professor of ecology
Pr. D.A. VUITTON: UFC - WHO Collaborating Center, Professor emeritus of immunology
Pr. C. CAPDEVILLE-ATKINSON: University of Nancy, Vice President
THREE SESSIONS WILL BE HELD ON

I) Animal hosts: current and changing epidemiological/ecological situations in Europe

Updating knowledge about spatial and temporal animal host epidemiology of AE is essential. This workshop addresses the issues of monitoring *E. multilocularis* in wildlife and domestic animals. This includes studies on host and parasite epidemiology, ecology and transmission systems as well as advances in diagnostic methods for surveillance and modelling.

II) Control strategies

This workshop will focus on the effectiveness of *E. multilocularis* control strategies such as deworming campaigns towards foxes and other animal hosts, host density control and the conditions in which they are implemented (urban, suburban or rural areas, etc.).

In addition, increasing public awareness through sanitary mass communication and how to assess its impact will be presented and discussed.

III) Advances in human epidemiology

Updating knowledge on human patterns of contamination by *E. multilocularis*, their possible relationship with animal epidemiology, and advances in AE diagnostic methods and treatments in humans. Primary and secondary (mass screening) prevention strategies will also be discussed.

CALL FOR COMMUNICATIONS:

We would be greatly honoured to rely on your active participation and take benefit of your communication proposals. The selected abstracts will be reviewed by the scientific committee and distributed among oral communications or posters. Further instructions will be displayed at that time regarding their final format.

Deadline for abstract submission: **September the 15th 2010, early submissions are highly encouraged.**

All abstracts have to be sent as a « MS Word » file based on the following guidelines, by email to: benoit.combes@e-r-z.com

For more information please contact the ERZ: +33 383 290 779 (France)
Or visit our website: [www.ententeragezoonoses.com](http://www.ententeragezoonoses.com)

For each submission, the “corresponding” author will receive an email of acknowledgment. The final selection of communications will be announced at the end of September 2010.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ABSTRACTS:

- Abstracts must be written in English
- Title should be typed in **CAPITAL LETTERS**, Arial 12 bold
- Presenting author’s name should be **underlined and bolded**
- Affiliations should include name of institution, city, country and email address
- Text font: Arial 12, single spacing
- If submitting more than one paper, each abstract must be sent as a separate email
- Abstract length should fit between 200 and 300 words