



EID Weekly Updates:

Emerging and Reemerging Infectious Diseases, Region of the Americas

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Follow-Up on Outbreak of Bat-Transmitted Human Rabies in Pará State, Brazil

To follow up on the outbreak of bat-transmitted human rabies detected in the city of Portel, state of Pará, Brazil, in January 2004, the last report on 8 April indicates that 8 cases have been confirmed since our update of 2 April, bringing the total to 13 cases of confirmed human rabies. Another 4 people are considered suspected cases (see Table 1), of which 2 have died. Test results will be available shortly.

Among the new confirmed cases, the first occurred on 2 March (instead of 4 March, as indicated in last week's update) and the last on 1 April (instead of 26 March).

This situation constitutes the largest reported outbreak of human rabies transmitted by bats in the entire country. The causes of this extremely rare event are currently being investigated by the Department of Health of the state of Pará, the Department of Health Surveillance and the state Department of Agriculture. The bat attacks occurred mainly during the months of September and October 2003. In the meantime, these episodes have been frequent in the rural area of the Acuti Pereira River, where the affected persons reside. Initial evaluations indicate the existence of more than one colony of bats in the affected localities.

There are ongoing investigations of new cases and of prevention, control, and treatment activities among the human population either affected or at risk. In

Table 1: Number of Human Cases and Deaths from the Rabies Virus (municipality of Portel, state of Pará, Brazil, as of 8 April 2004)

	Cases	Deaths
Confirmed	13	13
Suspected	4	2
Ruled out	3	0
Total	20	15

Note: The number of deaths is included in the number of cases.

Source: Reports to PAHO from the Department of Health, Pará (*Secretária da Saúde, Pará/SES-PA*) and the Department of Health Surveillance (*Secretária de Vigilância em Saúde/SVS*), Brazil.

Other domestic animals are also being vaccinated.

For more PAHO information, see the [PAHO Rabies Page](#) and the update on "Human Rabies Transmitted by Bats in Pará State, Brazil" in the April 2 issue of [EID Weekly Updates](#).

Sources: Reports to PAHO from the Department of Health, Pará (Secretária da Saúde, Pará/SES-PA) and the Department of Health Surveillance (Secretária de Vigilância em Saúde/SVS), Brazil.

Electronic Information Sources on the Occurrence and Distribution of Communicable Diseases in the Countries of the Americas

(All the sources listed below are published in the official language/s of the respective countries.

EW = Epidemiological Week; CAREC = Caribbean Epidemiology Centre, serving the English-speaking Caribbean.)

Country	Year	Last EW published	Current EW	Source & Link
Argentina	2004	EW 11	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud, Dirección de Epidemiología
Bolivia	2004	EW 13	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud y Deportes, Vigilancia Epidemiológica
Brazil	2004	EW 7 (February)	EW 15	Ministério da Saúde, Secretaria de Vigilância em Saúde (SVS), Publicações , Vigilância epidemiológica, <i>Boletim eletrônico epidemiológico</i>
Canada	2004	EW 15	EW 15	Health Canada /Santé Canada, <i>Communicable Disease Report / Relève des maladies transmissibles au Canada</i> (CCDR/RMTC)
Chile	2004	EW 6	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud, <i>Boletín Electrónico Mensual de Vigilancia Epidemiológica el vigía</i>
Colombia	2004	EW 10	EW 15	Ministerio de la Protección Social, Dirección de Salud Pública, Sistema de Vigilancia en Salud Pública (SIVIGILA), Boletín Epidemiológico Semanal
Costa Rica	2004	EW 13	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud, Sistema Nacional de Vigilancia en Salud, Boletín epidemiológico
Cuba	2004	EW 13	EW 15	Instituto de Medicina Tropical "Pedro Kourí" (IPK) Boletín epidemiológico

				semanal
El Salvador	2004	EW 15	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud y Asistencia Social, Vigilancia Epidemiológica Año 2004
Guatemala	2004	EW 9	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud Pública, Última Semana Epidemiológica
Mexico	2004	EW 13	EW 15	Secretaría de Salud, Estadísticas en Salud, Boletín Epidemiología
Nicaragua	2004	EW 11	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud (MINSa), Vigilancia Epidemiológica, Boletines epidemiológicos
Panama	2004	EW 13	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud : Sends bulletins to PAHO via e-mail.
Paraguay	2004	--	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud y Bienestar Social : Currently developing an electronic bulletin.
Peru	2004	EW 9	EW 15	Oficina General Epidemiologia (OGE), Boletines epidemiológicos
Puerto Rico	2004	--	EW 15	Departamento de Salud, Boletín epidemiológico
Uruguay	2004	--	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud Pública, Vigilancia Epidemiológica, Boletín epidemiológico
USA	2004	EW 14	EW 15	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), <i>Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports</i> (MMWR)
Venezuela	2004	EW 13	EW 15	Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social, Estadísticas, Alerta epidemiológico
English and Dutch Caribbean				
Anguilla	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 52/2003). Published every trimester.
Antigua & Barbuda	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 39/2003). Published every trimester.
Bahamas	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 52/2003). Published every trimester.
Barbados	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 48/2003).
Belize	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 53/2003).

				Published every trimester.
Bermuda	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 53/2003). Published every trimester.
British Virgin Islands	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 53/2003). Published every trimester.
Cayman Islands	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 53/2003). Published every trimester.
Dominica	2004	EW 12	EW 15	e-CSR (published weekly)
Grenada	2004	EW 13	EW 15	e-CSR (published weekly)
Guyana	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 32/2003). Published every trimester.
Jamaica	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 47/2003). Published every trimester.
Montserrat	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 53/2003). Published every trimester.
St. Lucia	2004	EW 13	EW 15	e-CSR (published weekly)
St. Kitts & Nevis	2004	EW 13	EW 15	e-CSR (published weekly)
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	2004	EW 13	EW 15	e-CSR (published weekly)
Suriname	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 52/2003). Published every trimester.
Trinidad & Tobago	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 50/2003). Published every trimester.
Turks & Caicos Islands	2004	--	EW 15	<i>CAREC Surveillance Report</i> (CSR) February 2004 (last EW 53/2003). Published every trimester.
Source: List compiled by PAHO Communicable Disease Unit, Emerging and Reemerging Diseases.				