Annex 23

**USA EDITS IN BLUE FONT**

Chapter 8.X.

**Infection with crimean-congo haEmorrhagic fever virus**

Article 8.X.1.

**General provisions**

The main objective of this chapter is to mitigate the animal and public health risks associated with Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever (CCHF).

**Category:** [addition, deletion, change, editorial, general]

Addition.

**Proposed amended texts (or precise suggested deletion):**

Please see text in blue above.

**Rationale:**

Recommend beginning this section with a sentence about the main objective of the chapter since it is a different focus from many of the other chapters. A similar practice was done in the Rift Vallet Fever chapter and this objective was noted by the Code Commission in their September 2024 report wherein the Commission highlighted that the main objective of this chapter that is to support notification by Members due to the public health risks associated with this disease.

**Supporting evidence:**

In their September 2024 report, the Code Commission requested comment on this chapter regarding the following: The Commission noted that, while it considered that it was not relevant to provide recommendations for international trade or animal health status, it may be relevant to consider developing recommendations for Veterinary Services’ activities to prevent the spread of the disease to humans, such as precautions at slaughterhouses or when working with animals or animal products in infected areas, and encouraged Members to consider this proposal and provide comments on its relevance.--If the main focus of this chapter is public health, we support including “recommendations for Veterinary Services’ activities to prevent the spread of the disease to humans, such as precautions at slaughterhouses or when working with animals or animal products in infected areas.” As example, the WOAH Manual, with primary purpose of describing diagnostics for listed diseases includes basic risk mitigation statements in their introductory content.

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code,* Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever is defined as an *infection* of ruminants, dromedary camels and ostriches (hereafter ‘animal hosts’) with Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever virus (CCHFV). CCHFV may also cause infection in humans.

**Category:** [addition, deletion, change, editorial, general]

Addition.

**Proposed amended texts (or precise suggested deletion):**

Please see text in blue above.

**Rationale:**

Suggest including the fact that "CCHFV may also cause infection in humans" in this introductory paragraph to prepare for the statements that follow.

**Supporting evidence:**

Points 2 and 3 below include "human infected with CCHFV." Also, here is one of several WOAH Manual references: "Humans acquire infection from tick bites, or from contact with infected blood or tissues from livestock or human patients. After incubation humans can develop a severe disease with a prehaemorrhagic phase, a haemorrhagic phase, and a convalescence period" (Hawman & Feldmann, 2023).

The following defines the occurrence of *infection* with CCHFV:

1. CCHFV has been isolated and identified as such in a sample from an animal host; or
2. nucleic acid specific to CCHFV has been detected in a sample from an animal host epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected *case,* or to a human infected with CCHFV, or giving cause for suspicion of previous association or contact with CCHFV; or
3. antibodies specific to CCHFV have been detected in a sample from an animal host epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected *case,* or to a human infected with CCHFV, or giving cause for suspicion of previous association or contact with CCHFV.

Standards for diagnosis and information on the epidemiology are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

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