Annex 25

**USA COMMENS IN RED FONT**

Chapter 8.Y.  
  
infection with nipah vIRUS

**Article 8.Y.1.**

General provisions

Nipah virus can infect a wide range of species, including humans, fruit bats, pigs, horses, dogs, and cats.~~, but o~~Only fruit bats, pigs and horses are ~~considered~~ known to play a significant role in the epidemiology of the disease. For the *Terrestrial Code*, *infection* with Nipah virus is defined as an *infection* of pigs and horses ~~and pigs~~ (hereafter ‘susceptible animal’) with Nipah virus.

**RATIONALE:** Other species (besides pigs and horses) meeting the criteria in this chapter should be included. As stated in the article referenced below, transmission can be between species as well as within species. WOAH should consider reporting any detection (cat, dog, livestock) until more is known about this virus and the risk of both inter- and intra- species transmission.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9817766/>

"Natural infection in domestic animals has been described in farming pigs, horses, and domestic and feral cats. Natural NiV transmission can be intra-specific (pig-to-pig, human-to-human) and inter-specific (flying bat-to-human; pig-to-human and horse-to-human). Ruminants are spillover hosts in which NiV infection in the ovi-caprine is ascertained, while bovine is a species considered as NiV-permissive. Dogs are also susceptible to NiV infection, but dogs and cats do not seem to play a zoonotic role [[66](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9817766/#B66-animals-13-00159)]. A study on NiV infection in peridomestic and feral cats in the Tioman island (Malaysia) pointed out that natural NiV infection is rare in cats and the zoonotic risk is classified as low [[67](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9817766/#B67-animals-13-00159)]."

The following provides more information on how fruit bats play the largest role in the epidemiology of this disease:

Halsie Donaldson, Daniel Lucey,"Enhancing preparation for large Nipah outbreaks beyond Bangladesh: Preventing a tragedy like Ebola in West Africa", International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 72, 2018, Pages 69-72, ISSN 1201-9712,

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijid.2018.05.015.>

We also recommend that WOAH expand on the meaning of “play a significant role in the epidemiology of the disease in livestock”. The potential for inter- and intra- species transmission among these species should be clearly stated.

The following references describe inter- and intra-species transmissions and their importance.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9817766/>

<https://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Factsheets/pdfs/nipah.pdf>

and,

Ching PK, de los Reyes VC, Sucaldito MN, Tayag E, Columna-Vingno AB, Malbas FF Jr, Bolo GC Jr, Sejvar JJ, Eagles D, Playford G, Dueger E, Kaku Y, Morikawa S, Kuroda M, Marsh GA, McCullough S, Foxwell AR. Outbreak of henipavirus infection, Philippines, 2014. Emerg Infect Dis. 2015 Feb;21(2):328-31. doi: 10.3201/eid2102.141433.

The following defines the occurrence of *infection* with Nipah virus:

1) Nipah virus has been isolated and identified as such in a sample from a susceptible animal; or

2) antigen or nucleic acid specific to Nipah virus has been detected in a sample from a susceptible animal showing clinical signs or pathological lesions consistent with *infection* with Nipah virus, epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected *case*, or giving cause for suspicion of previous association or contact with Nipah virus; or

3) seroconversion specific to Nipah virus, which is not the consequence of *vaccination*, has been detected in a susceptible animal; or

4) antibodies specific to Nipah virus, which are not the consequence of *vaccination*, have been detected in a sample from a susceptible animal epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected *case*, or giving cause for suspicion of previous association or contact with Nipah virus.

Standards for diagnosis and vaccines, as well as information on the epidemiology, are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

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