Mosquito testing as early warning system for WNV outbreaks

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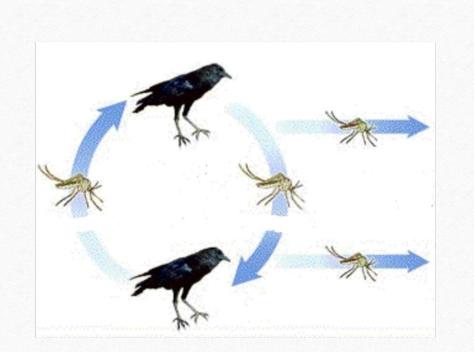
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West Nile virus (WNV) - Transmission cycle

Family *Flaviviridae*, Genus Flavivirus





Dead-end hosts



WNV & Early Warning System

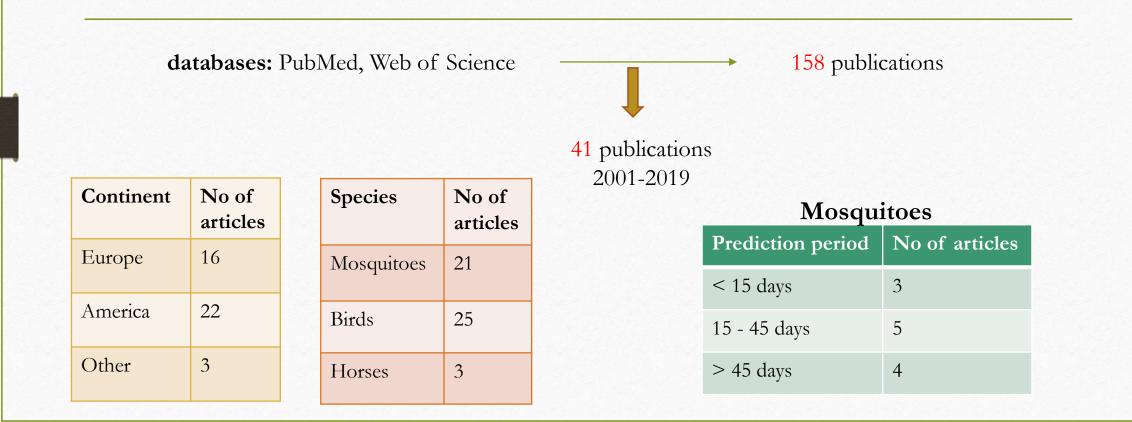
A statistical Early Warning System provides forecast disease outbreak risk maps.

In order to achieve to allow the indication of high risk areas or WNV and time intervals for the intensification of mosquito control measures and sensitization of population for personal protection against mosquitoes.

Data for an Early Warning System

- Entomological
- Epidemiological
- Climatologic, geographic and demographic data

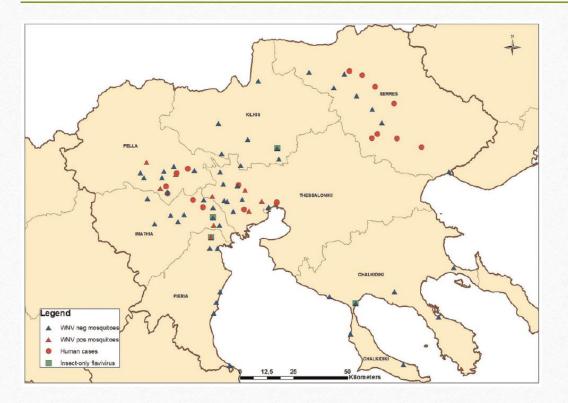
Meta-analysis data



WNV in Greece

- In Greece, WNV was detected for first time in 2010.
- Since 2010, outbreaks occurred in the country almost every year (except 2015 and 2016)
- The Greek strain (Nea Santa-Greece-2010) belongs to the Central European subclade of lineage 2.

WNV - Mosquitoes and human cases in Greece, 2013



295 pools of mosquitoes (25,780 Culex spp.)

9 WNV-positive mosquito pools in 4 regions 3.1%

Prediction period: ~1 month earlier

Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg 2014; **108**: 555–559 doi:10.1093/trstmh/tru100 Advance Access publication 17 July 2014



Detection of West Nile virus and insect-specific flavivirus RNA in *Culex* mosquitoes, central Macedonia, Greece

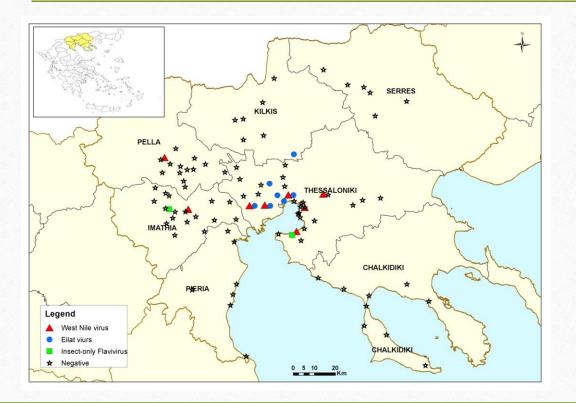
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WNV - Mosquitoes and human cases in Greece, 2018



229 pools of mosquitoes (17,470 Culex spp.)

10 WNV-positive mosquito pools in 3 regions 4.4%

Prediction period: ~2 weeks earlier



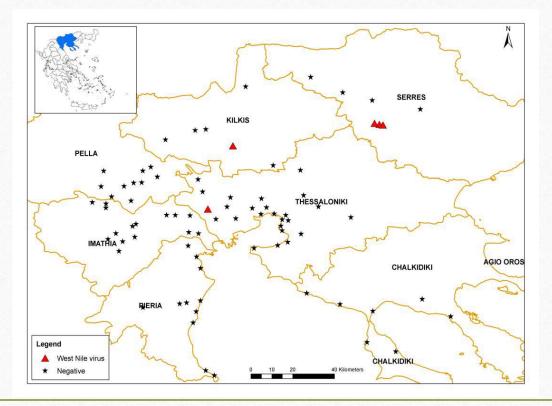
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Detection of flaviviruses and alphaviruses in mosquitoes in Central Macedonia, Greece, 2018

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WNV - Mosquitoes and human cases in Greece, 2019



346 pools of mosquitoes (26,614 Culex spp.)

5 WNV-positive mosquito pools in 3 regions 1.4%

Prediction period: ~2 weeks earlier only in one region

Conclusion

Testing mosquitoes for WNV may serve as early warning system, especially if the sites of the traps are selected based on specific criteria, but only when the circulation of the virus is relatively high.

Thank you!!

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