


Centre for Disease Prevention and Control of Latvia

Food and Veterinary Service Republic of Latvia

Ministry of Agriculture Republic of Latvia

Human Rabies case in Latvia 2019
(case study)

PAFF meeting,
Brussels, 16 December 2019

Rabies cases confirmed in Latvia (animals and people)

Animals:

The last Rabies cases in **wildlife animals** were confirmed in **February 2012**

In accordance with OIE self-declaration - Latvia has conferred free status from Rabies since **December 2014**

People:

The last **human** Rabies case was confirmed on **3 December 2019**

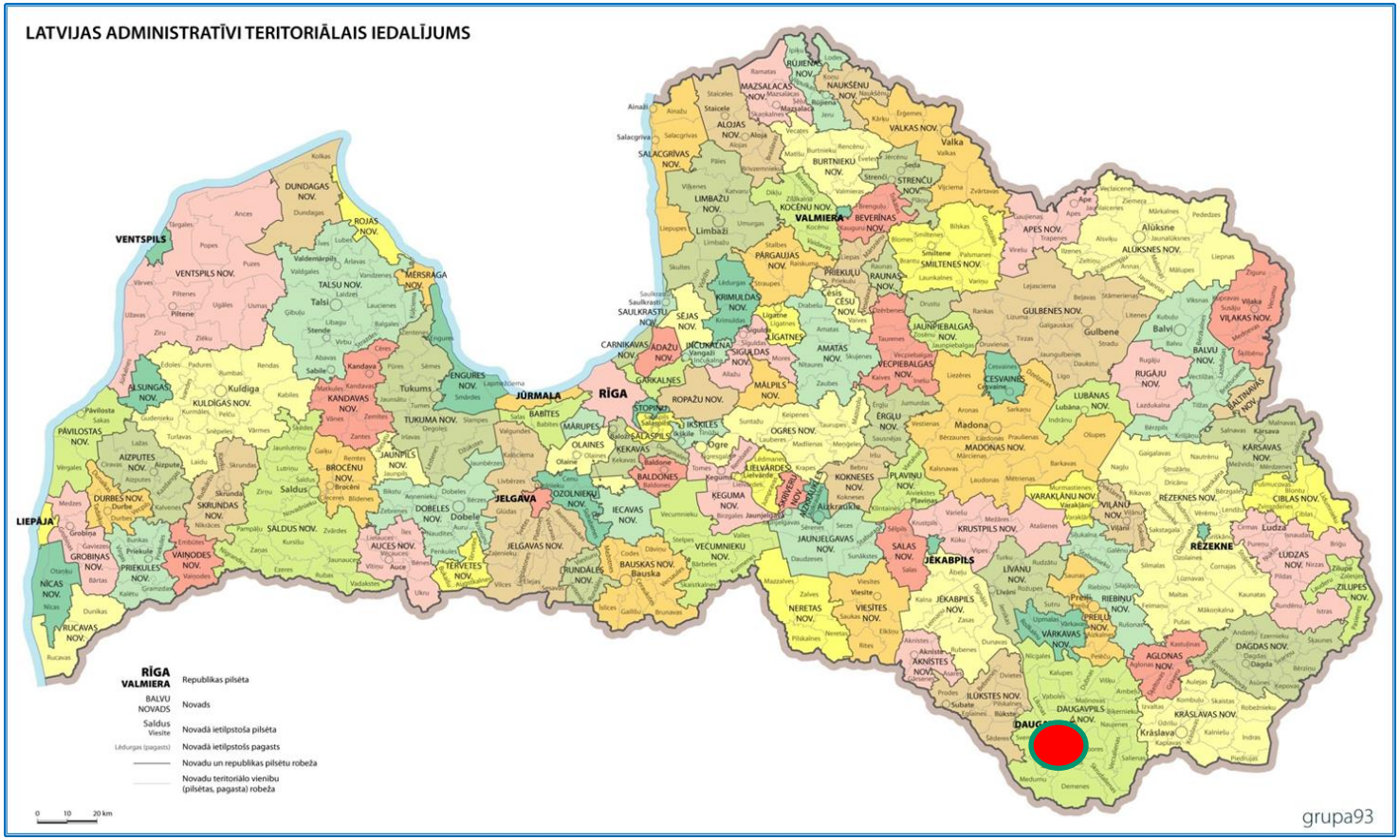
Confirmation was performed by Fluoriscent antibody test (FAT) and Real time Polimerase chain reaction (RT-PCR)

There are **4 human** Rabies cases were detected in Latvia since 1993 (in 1993, 1996, 2003 and 2019)

Only one case in each indicated year

Human Rabies case (short story)

The woman with pain in her back was taken to hospital in Daugavpils on 23 November. Later clinical signs similar to Rabies were observed. Woman died in the evening of 28 November. Rabies was confirmed in brain by National Reference laboratory of Latvia on 3 December.



Epidemiological information (1)

During the epidemiological investigation the epidemiologists found out that woman had been bitten by dog during her visit in India (near to Nepal) more than **1.5 years ago** (in May, 2018)

After bitten the woman had not passed through the post-expose prophylaxis

Very long incubation period – the **human died after more than 18 month post-exposure**

(in accordance with OIE disease technical card information the incubation period of Rabies varies from a few days to more than **7 years**)

(in accordance with information from medical literature – in human incubation period of Rabies varies approximately from **2 - 3 months, rare more than one year**)

Epidemiological information (2)

The results of virus sequencing was finished on 6 of December and revealed that the origin of virus was **Asia region – isolated Rabies virus genotype 1**

(Results were compared with GenBank data base existing Rabies virus sequences and founded that virus sequence have 99,17% compatibility with isolate RV2924 or Nepal Rabies virus)

People who had been in contact with the woman are identified and passing post exposure prophylaxis

There are **71 people identified as contact persons** and all have subjected to vaccination against Rabies

The information campaign has been performed by distributing information in mass media (official press releases, information in national television, distribution of leaflets)

Control of animals being in contact with infected human

The infected woman owned two cats (**one of them had not been vaccinated against Rabies**)

The animals had been placed under supervision of veterinarian

The supervision was performed in the veterinary clinic started on 30 of November

The vaccinated animal released to home after revaccination against Rabies

Unvaccinated animal euthanized on 12 of December and his body passed to laboratory tests for investigation on Rabies

No clinical sings like infection with Rabies have been detected during observation for both animals

Next steps

The epidemiological investigation still is in process

The results on laboratory investigations of euthanized animal will be provided as soon as it completed

Thank you for your attention!