

404 RIFT VALLEY FEVER VIRUS ACTIVITY IN WEST AFRICA, 1989-1991. Zeller HG*, Wilson ML, Schmidt EA, Thiongane Y, Cornet JP, Camicas JL, Gonzalez JP, Bessin R, Teou K, Kpomassi M, Formenty P, Digoutte JP, and Akakpo JA. Institut Pasteur, Dakar, Senegal; Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT; Institut Senegalais de Recherches Agricoles, Dakar, Senegal; ORSTOM, Dakar, Senegal; Laboratoire National d'Elevage, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; Ecole inter-

Etats des Sciences et Medecine Veterinaires, Dakar, Senegal; and Laboratoire Central de Pathologie Animale, Bingerville, Cote d'Ivoire.

Rift Valley Fever (RVF) virus in East Africa produces epizootics that persist for 1-3 years and then disappear for 5-15 year intervals. In West Africa, however, little is known of RVF virus transmission. The recent epizootic period there (1987-88) also produced human infection in some sites as well as epidemic RVF in southern Mauritania and northern Senegal. Since then, we have been monitoring RVF virus transmission by studying domestic ungulates from this region and from Burkina Faso, Togo, Cote d'Ivoire and Cameroon. Sera were tested by ELISA for anti-RVF virus specific IgG and IgM. From hundreds of sheep and cattle sampled in the river and savannah regions of northern Senegal, only 3 seroconversions were recorded in 1989 and none in 1990. Similarly, few new RVF virus infections were found in the Sahelian and Sudanian habitats of the other countries. This rapid decline in incidence from 1987-88 suggests an inter-epizootic period, and raises questions as to virus maintenance. The possible influences of immunity and climate on the intensity of RVF virus transmission are discussed.

**PROGRAM AND ABSTRACTS OF THE
40TH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE**

**The Boston Sheraton
Boston, Massachusetts
December 1-5, 1991**

**Supplement to
THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF
TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE**



ORSTOM Fonds Documentaire

N° : 35.439 ex 1

Cote : B

20 MAI 1992

**PLEASE BRING THIS COPY TO THE MEETING
ADDITIONAL COPIES WILL BE \$5.00**

PB 984/12



M P7 IV