Emerging Zoonotic Diseases: Can it be the Case of Bioterrorism

Viroj Wiwanitkit1-5*
1Hainan Medical University, China
2Faculty of Medicine, University of Nis, Serbia
3Joseph Ayobabalola University, Nigeria
4DY Patil Medical University, India
5SurinRajabhat University, Surin, Thailand

*Correspondence author: Dr. Viroj Wiwanitkit, Wiwanitkit House, Bangkhae, Bangkok Thailand- 10160, Tel: 66 44 611 221; E-mail: wviroj@yahoo.com

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Editorial

Within the past decade, there are several new emerging zoonotic diseases (such as H5N1 bird flu). Those new emerging zoonotic diseases become the important issue for medical society. Since the disease is new and cross species, the diagnosis and management of the new emerging zoonotic disease is usually difficulty. In general situation, attempting to control of new disease needs a great effort. However, in a more complex situation, the bioterrorism, the situation can be worse [1].

The first question to be answered is whether there is any possibility that the new emerging zoonotic disease can be used as a tool for bioterrorism [2,3]. Indeed, several new emerging zoonoses are proved for the “potential [2].” Hence, it is no doubt that there might be the case of bioterrorism using emerging zoonotic pathogen. Second, how to prepare to correspond to the incidence has to be discussed. Since zoonosis is the new thing bridging between practitioners on “human” and “animal”, knowledge on both sides is needed. Kahn [4] noted that “physician and veterinarian comparative medicine research teams should be promoted and encouraged to study zoonotic agent-host interactions. For sure, this has to be early prepared. As noted by Chomel and Marano [5] “training programmes in applied epidemiology, and foreign animal diseases are crucial for the development of a strong workforce to deal with microbial threats.”

References: