

**UMS '23**



**30 MARCH - 01 APRIL / MONA PLAZA Belgrade**

## **EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES:** Are we ready for new evolutionary challenges?

# **CONGRESS PROGRAM**

**AND**

# **E-ABSTRACT BOOK**

UMS SERIES

23



30 MARCH  
01 APRIL



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**Esteemed colleagues, dear friends,**

It is a great pleasure to greet you on the Congress

**"EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES: Are we ready for new evolutionary challenges?"  
of the Serbian Society of Microbiology UMS 2023 SERIES.**

from 30th March to 1st April 2023 at the MONA PLAZA hotel in Belgrade.

After the great success of the FEMS Microbiology Conference Belgrade 2022, the Serbian Society for Microbiology (UMS) is announcing the start of the UMS Series 2023 – a succession of congresses and symposia regarding current global topics and challenges in the field of microbiology for this year.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shed new light on the importance of advanced DNA technologies and the knowledge of pathogen evolution in the fight against emerging infectious diseases. Gaining the upper hand in this fight is achievable only with the continuous cooperation of microbiologists, clinicians, epidemiologists, biologists, bioinformaticians, representatives of public health and state policy makers.

These new global diagnostic and therapeutic challenges, extremely important in the third decade of the 21st century, will be addressed at the Congress from different sides. This will present an opportunity for microbiologists, epidemiologists and clinicians to recognize the importance of multidisciplinary approach to the prevention of epidemics, their timely detection and the prediction of potential epidemic events.

The Congress's main program sessions will present current topics at the global, regional and national level, while panel discussions will offer listeners the opportunity to exchange knowledge and experience with leading national and foreign experts in the fields of microbiology, molecular biology, infectology, epidemiology, pulmology, gastroenterology and pediatrics.

We believe that this Congress will present an important next step in strengthening and expanding cooperation at the national and regional levels, thus improving the surveillance of emerging pathogens in Serbia through the implementation of new analytical strategies.

Over sixty international, regional and national experts are with us and will share their experience and expertise with all of us.. The Congress program has been accredited by the Health Council of Serbia as an international congress with the maximum number of CME points, yet another proof of its quality and appropriateness.

We are grateful to all of you who showed large interest and joined the Congress in such large numbers. We believe that attractive topics, high-quality program, dynamic presentation formats and excellent lecturers will prove your choice right. We are certain that you share our belief in the new opportunities ahead of us, aiming towards enhanced professional exchange & development in the SEE region and beyond.

Indeed, we are glad to host you in a pleasant atmosphere of Belgrade beginning April, to benefit from the attractive and dynamic program, exchange knowledge, and, equally important, to refresh existing and establish new contacts with colleagues and friends, while enjoying our hospitality and cherish the moment in one of the best partying cities of Europe.

**You are most welcome!!!**



**Assistant Professor**

**Irena Aranđelović**

President of the  
Organization Committee



**Professor Lazar Ranin**

President of the Serbian  
Society for Microbiology



**Professor**

**Aleksandra Knežević**

President  
of the Scientific Committee



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**UMS**  
SERIES

**23**



**30 MARCH**

**—**  
**01 APRIL**

# **CONGRESS PROGRAM**

DAN 1

ČETVRTAK 30. Mart 2023 / THURSDAY 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023

DAY 1

08:00-08:45

REGISTRACIJA UČESNIKA / PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

08:45-09:00

**POZDRAVNA REČ ORGANIZATORA I OTVARANJE KONGRESA  
OPENING CEREMONY****SESIJA / SESSION**

- Savremeni pristup u otkrivanju, praćenju i prevenciji bolesti izazvanih pretečim patogenima
- Cutting-edge approaches to detection, monitoring & prevention of emerging infectious diseases

Moderators: Maja Stanojević, Aleksandra Knežević

9:00

**Maja Stanojević / Serbia**

- Značaj primene molekularno-bioinformatičkih analiza u otkrivanju, praćenju i predviđanju bolesti izazvanih pretečim patogenima
- The importance of the application of molecular-bioinformatics analyses in the detection, monitoring and prediction of emerging infectious diseases

10:00

**Aleksandra Knežević / Serbia**

- Kako odabrati DNK tehnologiju: direktno sekvenciranje vs. sekvenciranje nove generacije
- How to choose DNA technology: direct sequencing vs. next generation sequencing

**Marina Šiljić / Serbia**

- Upoznavanje evolucije patogena kroz filogenetske i filodinamičke analize
- Understanding the evolution of pathogens through phylogenetic and phylodynamic analyses

**Valentina Ćirković / Serbia**

- Putevi širenja patogena: filogeografske analize
- Routes of pathogens spread: phytogeographic analyses

10:00-10:10

**LABENA / KOMPANIJSKO PREDAVANJE**

Sensitivity and resistance of Gram negative pathogens, the view from green and red corner. / Gorkem Yaman



Labena

10:10-10:25



Pauza za kafu / Coffee break



#### **SESIJA / SESSION**

- Preteće mikobakterijske infekcije
- Emerging mycobacterial infections

Moderators: Lidija Ristić, Irena Aranđelović

**Paolo Miotto / Italy**

- Genomika u dijagnostici antimikrobne rezistencije u tuberkulozi
- Genomics in the diagnosis of drug resistance in TB

**Matthias Merker / Germany**

- Transkontinentalno širenje i evolucija multirezistentnih sojeva *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* – implikacije za kliničku dijagnostiku i javno zdravlje
- Transcontinental spread and evolution of multidrug resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* strains – implications for clinical diagnostics and public health

10:25

-

12:20

**Lidija Ristić / Serbia**

- Režimi lečenja MDR TB – izazovi sadašnjosti, nade budućnosti
- Regimens to treat MDR TB – today's challenge and hope for the future

**Maja Stošić / Serbia**

- Implementacija nacionalnog TB programa – izazovi u post-COVID eri
- National TB program implementation – challenges in post COVID era

**Irena Aranđelović / Serbia**

- 15 godina molekularne dijagnostike TB i mikobakterioza u Srbiji
- 15 years of molecular diagnostics of TB and mycobacterioses in Serbia

**Ljiljana Žmak / Croatia**

- Mikobakterioze: zanemareni javno-zdravstveni problem
- Mycobacterioses: a neglected public health problem

**Ivana Dakić / Serbia**

- Netuberkulozne mikobakterije kao produktori biofilma
- Nontuberculous mycobacteria as biofilm producers

**SESIJA / SESSION**

- Virusne zoonoze
- Viral zoonoses

Moderators: Goran Stevanović, Marko Janković

**Marko Janković / Serbia**

- Virusne zoonoze – poznati patogeni i nove pretnje
- Viral zoonoses – known pathogens and new threats

**Anna Papa-Konidari / Greece**

- Primena sekvenciranja nove generacije u evolutivnim analizama virusa Zapadnog Nila
- Next generation sequencing for the evolutionary studies of West Nile virus

12:20

-

13:55

**Valentina Ćirković / Serbia**

- Endemska populaciona dinamika virusa Zapadnog Nila u komarcima sa teritorije Srbije
- Endemic population dynamics of West Nile virus in mosquitoes from the territory of Serbia

**Jelena Protić / Serbia**

- Hantavirusi na Balkanu: da li nas čekaju nove epidemije?
- Hantaviruses in the Balkans: can we expect new outbreaks?

**Goran Stevanović / Serbia**

- Epidemija majmunskih boginja: nova lica poznatog patogena
- The monkeypox outbreak: new faces of a known pathogen

**Jasmina Poluga / Serbia**

- Neuroinfektivni agensi: da li se nešto promenilo?
- Neuroinfectious agents: has anything changed?

14:00-15:00



Ručak / Lunch

**SESIJA / SESSION**

- *Helicobacter pylori infekcija i infekcije koje se prenose hranom*
- *Helicobacter pylori infection and foodborne infections*

Moderators: Marina Milenković, Dušan Kekić

**Aleksandra Sokić-Milutinović / Serbia**

- *Helicobacter pylori: klinički značaj*
- *Helicobacter pylori: clinical importance*

**Tomica Milosavljević / Serbia**

- Smernice za lečenje *Helicobacter pylori* infekcije
- Treatment guidelines for *Helicobacter pylori* infection

15:00

16:30

**Vladimir Miličević / Serbia**

- Antimikrobnja rezistencija *Helicobacter pylori*
- Antimicrobial resistance of *Helicobacter pylori*

**Dušan Kekić / Serbia**

- *Helicobacter pylori* infekcija u Srbiji: molekularna dijagnostika u rutinskoj praksi
- *Helicobacter pylori* infection in Serbia: molecular diagnostics in routine practice

**Marina Milenković / Serbia**

- Inovativne dijagnostičke metode za *Helicobacter pylori* infekciju
- Innovative diagnostic methods for *Helicobacter pylori* infection

**Igor Kljujev / Serbia**

- Patogeni koji se prenose hranom - načini širenja i njihova detekcija primenom molekularnih metoda
- Foodborne pathogens - ways of spreading and their detection by molecular methods

16:30-16:45



Pauza za kafu / Coffee break

16:45-17:45

**Panel diskusija Panel discussion**

- Implementacija molekularno-bioinformatičkog pristupa u rutinski rad mikrobiološke laboratorije
- Implementation of the molecular-bioinformatics approach to routine microbiological diagnostics

Učesnici / Participants: Paolo Miotto, Matthias Merker, Ljiljana Žmak,  
Anna Papa-Konidari, Maja Stanojević, Aleksandra Knežević



## KRATKE ORALNE PREZENTACIJE SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Moderators: Ivana Dakić, Marko Janković

**Margo Diricks / Germany**

- Genomic surveillance of the emerging pathogen *Mycobacterium abscessus*

**Ankica Vujović / Serbia**

- Changing profile of intrahospital infections during the COVID-19 pandemic in Intensive Care Units - are we in danger of entering the pre-antibiotic era

**Milica Šarčević / B&H**

- Antimicrobial sensitivity and intrahospital transmission dynamics of *Klebsiella spp.* isolates during a one-year period

**Anna Lyapina / Russia**

- Immune response induced by the inactivated *C. psittaci* strain in mouse model

**Artem Rozhin / Russia**

- Synergistic effect of inhibiting bacterial growth when using an antibiotic and silver nanoparticles

**Elena Krstevska-Kelepurovska / North Macedonia**

- Change of antimicrobial resistance of *Streptococcus agalactiae* to erythromycin and clindamycin over a 10 years southwestern region of Republic of North Macedonia

**Emel Mataraci Kala / Turkey**

- *In vitro* activities of eugenol+ciprofloxacin combination against carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriales (CRE) strains Isolated from urinary tract infections

**Mayram Hacioglu / Turkey**

- Effects of CSA-44 and CSA-192 in combination with linezolid against *Enterococcus spp.*

**Sanja Matić / Serbia**

- The protective effect of IFNL3 and IFNL4 gene polymorphisms on development of COVID-19 pneumonia in female patients

**Teodora Kukrić / Serbia**

- IN VITRO ANTIFUNGAL ACTIVITY OF HYDROPHILIC CHOLINE CHLORIDE-BASED NATURAL DEEP EUTECTIC SOLVENTS

**Damla Damar Celik / Turkey**

- *In vitro* activities of ceftazidime/avibactam alone or in combination with antibiotics against multidrug-resistant *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia* isolates

**Maria Pavlova / Bulgaria**

- Epidemiological and clinical-laboratory characteristics of the covid 19 infection in Bulgaria during the spring-summer season of the 2022

**18:00****19:00**

DAN 2

**PETAK 31. Mart 2023 / FRIDAY 31<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

DAY 2

**SESIJA / SESSION**

- Invazivne gljivične infekcije
- Invasive fungal infections

Moderators: Ivana Čolović-Čalovski, Aleksandra Barać

**Paul Verweij / Netherlands**

- Kako se suočiti sa rezistencijom na antimikotike kao pretnjom za javno zdravlje?
- Tackling the emerging threat of antifungal resistance to human health

**Aleksandra Barać / Serbia**

- Multidisciplinarni pristup u prevenciji, dijagnostici i lečenju invazivnih gljivičnih infekcija
- A multidisciplinary approach in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of invasive fungal infections

**Sanja Mitrović / Serbia**

- Aktuelni pristup u ispitivanju osetljivosti gljiva na antimikotike: referentne metode i komercijalne tehnike
- Current approach in antifungal susceptibility testing: reference methods and commercial techniques

**Ivana Čolović-Čalovski / Serbia**

- Multirezistentne preteće kvasnice kao dijagnostički izazov: *Candida auris*
- Multidrug-resistant yeasts as a diagnostic challenge: *Candida auris*

**Borko Gobeljić / Serbia**

- Invazivne gljivične infekcije kod dece sa transplantiranim matičnim ćelijama hematopoeze: klinička slika i terapijske mogućnosti
- Invasive fungal infections in children undergoing hematopoietic stem cell transplantation: clinical presentation and therapeutic options

**Stefan Mijatović / Serbia**

- Značaj primene multipleks PCR metode u dijagnostici invazivne kandidijaze
- The importance of applying the multiplex PCR method in the diagnosis of invasive candidiasis

9:00

-

10:35

10:35-10:50

**Pauza za kafu / Coffee break**

**SESIJA / SESSION**

- Bolničke infekcije
- Healthcare-associated infections

Moderators: Vesna Mioljević, Ina Gajić

**Arjana Tambić-Andrašević / Croatia**

- Kako se nositi sa problemom rezistencije na antibiotike u 21. veku?
- How to overcome the problem of antimicrobial resistance in the 21st century?

**Snežana Jovanović / Serbia**

- Da li smo spremni za izazove antimikrobnе rezistencije?
- Are we ready for the challenges of antimicrobial resistance?

**Vesna Mioljević / Serbia**

- Značaj multidisciplinarnog pristupa u borbi protiv antimikrobnе rezistencije
- The importance of a multidisciplinary approach in the fight against antimicrobial resistance

**Ana Kaftandžieva / North Macedonia**

- Karbapenem rezistentni sojevi *Klebsiella pneumoniae* – petogodišnja studija
- Carbapenem resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* – a five-year study

**Ina Gajić / Serbia**

- Molekularna epidemiologija infekcija izazvanih multirezistentnim sojevima *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* u Srbiji
- Molecular epidemiology of infections caused by multiresistant strains of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in Serbia

**Zoran Todorović / Serbia**

- Upravljanje antibioticima u bolnici u eri rastuće rezistencije: između kolektivne odgovornosti i istinske saradnje
- Hospital antibiotic stewardship in the era of increasing resistance: between collective responsibility and true collaboration

10:50

12:30

12:30-12:45

**PFIZER / KOMPANIJSKO PREDAVANJE**

Glavne infekcije, koliko su retke i kako ih dijagnostikujemo i lečimo?

/ Eleonora Dubljanin, Serbia



12:45-13:05

**BIOMERIEUX / KOMPANIJSKO PREDAVANJE**

Diagnostic stewardship: peer reviewed evidence to support the selection of the appropriate test for each patient / Barrios Abraham Florencia



**SESIJA / SESSION**

- Streptokokne infekcije
- Streptococcal infections

Moderator: Nataša Opavski

**13:05****13:50****Nevena Jovičić / Serbia**

- Izazovi u dijagnostici pneumokoknih pneumonija kod dece
- Challenges in the diagnosis of pneumococcal paediatric pneumonia

**Uroš Karić / Serbia**

- Različite kliničke prezentacije pneumokoknih meningitisa
- Different clinical presentations of pneumococcal meningitis

**Nataša Opavski / Serbia**

- Izmene u distribuciji invazivnih serotipova pneumokoka u Srbiji
- Changes in distribution of invasive pneumococcal disease serotypes in Serbia

**13:50-14:05****PFIZER / INDUSTRY SESSION**

Distribucija serotipova koji izazivaju pneumokoknu invazivnu bolest kod dece i značaj obuhvata serotipova konjugovanom vakcinom  
/ Nataša Opavski, Serbia

**14:00-15:00****Ručak / Lunch****SATELITSKI SIMPOZIJUM / SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM**

- "Zajedno u borbi protiv antimikrobne rezistencije"
- "Fighting antimicrobial resistance: united we stand"

Moderator: Irena Arandjelović

**Ana Kaftandžieva / Medicinski fakultet, Univerzitet u Skoplju****Snežana Jovanović / Služba za mikrobiologiju, UKCS****15:00****Janko Samardžić / Institut za farmakologiju,****kliničku farmakologiju i toksikologiju, MFUB****17:00****Ana Stojanović / KBC "Bežanijska kosa"****Dragana Melentijević / Dom zdravlja "Dr Simo Milošević" Čukarica****Predrag Veljković / Specijalna bolnica "Dr Žutić"****Vesna Kovačević Jovanović / Zdravstveni sistem Medigroup**

**17:00-17:15****Pauza za kafu / Coffee break****17:15-18:15****Panel diskusija / Panel discussion**

- Značaj saradnje mikrobiologa i kliničara za uvođenje molekularno-bioinformatičkog pristupa u programe nadzora nad pretećim patogenima
- The importance of cooperation between microbiologist and clinician for the introduction of the molecular bioinformatics approach in surveillance programs for emerging pathogens

Učesnici / Participants: Paul Verweij, Arjana Tambić-Andrašević, Zoran Todorović, Aleksandra Barać, Borko Gobeljić, Nataša Opavski

**KRATKE POSTER PREZENTACIJE / SHORT POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

Moderators: prof. dr Ivana Čolović-Čalovski, asist. dr Stefan Mijatović

**Ljiljana Božić / B&H**

- Immune response induced by different types of vaccines and SARS-CoV-2 infection in healthcare workers of the University Clinical Center, the Republic of Srpska

**Ivan Pavlović / Serbia**

- The role of dogs in the contamination of public surfaces in Belgrade with *Giardia intestinalis*

**Mario Sviben / Croatia**

- *Cryptosporidium* spp. and *Giardia* spp. in raw water used for water supply in Croatia

**Radoslava Savić-Radovanović / Serbia**

- The risk of *Listeria monocytogenes* occurrence in sushi

**Elena Krstevska / North Macedonia**

- Detection of respiratory viruses by Real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) in patients with acute respiratory infections in southwestern region of Republic of North Macedonia

**Elvira Rozhina / Russia**

- Biogenic silver nanoparticles: cytotoxic effect

**18:15****19:15**

**KRATKE POSTER PREZENTACIJE SHORT POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

Moderators: prof. dr Ivana Čolović-Čalovski, asist. dr Stefan Mijatović

**Jasmina Nikolovska / North Macedonia**

- Most common bacterial isolates from wound specimens

**Sanja Jakovac / B&H**

- *Klebsiella pneumoniae* resistant to carbapenems in the University Clinical Hospital Mostar

**Vuk Marušić / Serbia**

- Microbiological profile of surgical site infections after hip and knee arthroplasty in a tertiary surgical hospital

**Nevena Milosavljević-Labus / Serbia**

- Fluoroquinolone resistance rates of *Escherichia coli* isolates from outpatients urine samples in Medigroup system

**Jasna Kureljušić / Serbia**

- Listeriosis – zoonotic aspect

**Amir Mešić / B&H**

- *Helicobacter pylori* infection

**18:15****19:15****Martina Jug / Serbia**

- Monkeypox presenting as phimosis: a case report

**Nataša Krtolina Banjac / B&H**

- Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on outpatient and in-hospital use of antibiotics and antimicrobial resistance rate

**Dragica Đurđević-Milošević / Serbia**

- Opportunistic Pathogen *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* – Determination of limit of Detection of PH. EUR.10th Method

**Gordana Petrović / Serbia**

- A Case Report of a Pediatric Patient with Atypical Form of Chickenpox

**Gordana Petrović / Serbia**

- Systemic form of cat scratch disease - differential diagnosis of prolonged fever in immunocompetent children

DAN 3

SUBOTA 01. april 2023 / SATURDAY 01<sup>st</sup> April 2023

DAY 3



## SESIJA / SESSION

- Preteće parazitoze i vektorske bolesti
- Emerging parasitic infections and vector-borne diseases

Moderators: Tijana Štajner, Snežana Tomanović

9:30  
-  
10:50

Barbara Šoba Šparl / Slovenia

- Kolaborativni pristup u detekciji autohtone *Dirofilaria repens* u Sloveniji
- The collaborative approach to detection of autochthonous *Dirofilaria repens* in Slovenia

Tijana Štajner / Serbia

- Rizik od infekcije parazitom *Toxoplasma gondii* nakon transplantacije: rezultati prospективne kohortne studije Nacionalne referentne laboratorije
- Transplantation-related risk of *Toxoplasma gondii* infection: the National Reference Laboratory prospective cohort study results

Zorica Dakić / Serbia

- Importovana malarija u Srbiji: nekad i sad
- Imported malaria in Serbia: then and now

Snežana Tomanović / Serbia

- *Borrelia miyamotoi*, *Neoerlichia micurensis* i *Babesia microti* - retki zoonotski patogeni prenošeni krpeljima u Srbiji
- *Borrelia miyamotoi*, *Neoerlichia micurensis* and *Babesia microti* - emerging zoonotic tick-borne pathogens in Serbia

Gorana Veinović / Serbia

- *Borrelia lusitaniae* i *Borrelia valaisiana* – potencijal za uzrokovavanje lajmske borelioze u Srbiji
- *Borrelia lusitaniae* and *Borrelia valaisiana* – potential for causing Lyme borreliosis in Serbia



Pauza za kafu / Coffee break

10:50-11:05



## SESIJA / Vakcine SESSION / Vaccines

Moderators: Dragana Vuković, Eleonora Dubljanin

11:05  
-  
12:20

Miloš Marković / Serbia

- RNK vakcine - novo oružje za kontrolu pretečih infektivnih bolesti
- RNA vaccines - a novel weapon to control emerging infectious diseases

Olivera Lijeskić / Serbia

- Antitela specifična za SARS-CoV-2 nakon mRNA vakcine kao treće doze: homologi i heterologi pristup revakcinaciji
- SARS-CoV-2 specific antibody response after an mRNA vaccine as the third dose: homologous versus heterologous boost

11:05

**Eleonora Dubljanin / Serbia**

- Da li je vakcina ključni faktor u borbi protiv malarije?
- Is vaccine a game changer in the fight against malaria?

12:20

**Dragana Vuković / Serbia**

- Vakcine protiv tuberkuloze: zašto množina?
- Vaccines against TB: why plural?

**Ljiljana Pavlović / Serbia**

- Da li je difterija zaboravljena bolest?
- Diphtheria: forgotten disease

**SESIJA / Antimikrobnna terapija****SESSION / Antimicrobial therapy**

Moderators: Aleksandra Šmitran, Jelena Srbljanović

12:20

**Alexandra Nascutiu / Romania**

- Antimikrobnna rezistencija i etička pitanja
- Approach to the ethical issues raised by antimicrobial resistance

13:35

**Nijaz Tihić / B&H**

- Nadzor nad antimikrobnom rezistencijom u Bosni i Hercegovini
- Surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Jelena Srbljanović / Serbia**

- Eksperimentalna terapija malarije – novi vidici
- Experimental treatment of malaria – new perspectives

**Aleksandra Šmitran / RS, B&H**

- Potencijal nanočestica i nanokompozita u terapiji infekcija izazvanih multirezistentnim bakterijama
- The potential of nanoparticles and nanocomposites in the therapy of infections caused by multidrug-resistant bacteria

13:35-13:50

**Pfizer / KOMPANIJSKO PREDAVANJE**

Antimikrobnna rezistencija Gram negativnih bakterija, tih pandemija

Ili oluja u najavi? / Snežana Jovanović, Serbia



14:00-15:00

**Panel diskusija / Panel discussion**

Terapijske mogućnosti i prevencija pretečih infektivnih bolesti

Treatment options and prevention of emerging infectious diseases

**Učesnici / Participants:** Alexandra Nascutiu, Miloš Marković, Nijaz Tihić, Tijana Štajner

15.00-16.00

**KOKTEL I CEREMONIJA ZATVARANJA****FAREWELL RECEPTION AND CLOSING CEREMONY**

**UMS**  
SERIES

**23**



**30 MARCH**

**—**  
**01 APRIL**

# **CONGRESS ABSTRACTS**



# Endemska populaciona dinamika virusa Zapadnog Nila u komarcima sa teritorije Srbije

Valentina Ćirković<sup>1</sup>

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Prvi slučajevi infekcije virusom Zapadnog Nila (VZN) u Srbiji zabeleženi su 2012. godine, dok je 2018., prema izveštaju Evropskog centra za kontrolu i prevenciju bolesti (ECDC), Srbija prijavila najveći broj obolelih (385) od svih zemalja jugoistočne Evrope. Cilj ove studije je bio da se genetički okarakterišu sojevi VZN-a, koji cirkulišu u Srbiji.

U studiji je ispitano 200 pulova komaraca, skupljenih u Beogradu i široj okolini, u okviru redovnog nadzora koji sprovodi Zavod za biocide i medicinsku ekologiju u Beogradu u periodu od 2018-2020. Prisustvo VZN-a utvrđeno je reakcijom lančanog umnožavanja (engl. polymerase chain reaction – PCR), za detekciju NS5 gena, sa primenom Sangerovog DNK sekvenciranja dobijenih PCR produkata i njihovom preliminarnom identifikacijom primenom BLAST alata u NCBI bazi podataka.

Konstrukcija filogenetskog stabla rađena je primenom metode Bajesove statistike implementirane u MrBayes softverski paket, uz odgovarajući evolutivni model koji je izabran u jModelTest softveru. Iz 200 analiziranih pulova komaraca, koji su skupljeni u periodu od 2018-2020, dobili smo 45 sekvenci NS5 gena VZN-a. Rezultati studije su pokazali da je 22.5% (45/200) pulova komarca bilo pozitivno na prisustvo VZN-a. Najveći procenat pozitivnih pulova je iz 2018. godine i iznosi 57.8% (26/45), zatim iz 2019 26.7% (12/45) i iz 2020 15.5% (7/45). Identifikacija dobijenih sekvenci pokazala je da je u Srbiji trenutno u cirkulaciji samo linija 2 VZN-a. Dalja analiza je potvrdila da su sojevi VZN-a iz Srbije najsličniji izolatima iz Grčke. Dodatno, u jednom pulu komaraca, uzorkovanom u okolini Šapca 2019. godine, identifikovano je prisustvo Usutu virusa.

Dobijeni rezultati su potvrdili da u Srbiji cirkuliše linija 2 VZN-a kao i da postoji potreba za kontinuiranim molekularno-bioinformatički nadzorom nad ovim i sličnim zoonotskim virusima.



# Endemic population dynamics of West Nile virus in mosquitoes from the territory of Serbia

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The first cases of West Nile virus (WNV) infection in Serbia recorded in 2012, while in 2018, according to the report of the European Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (ECDC), Serbia reported the highest number of cases (385) in the Southeast Europe. The aim of this study was to genetically characterize strains of WNV circulating in Serbia.

The present study included 200 pools of mosquitoes, collected in Belgrade and the surrounding area by the Institute for Biocides and Medical Ecology in Belgrade in the period from 2018–2020, as part of regular surveillance. The presence of WNV was detected by Nested-PCR (Polymerase chain reaction) method together with specific primers for detection of partial NS5 gene. All obtained specific PCR products were directly sequenced in both directions. Preliminary sequence identification was done by BLAST tool (<http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi>). Bayesian method was employed to infer the evolutionary relationship of studied sequence dataset, using MrBayes software with the best-fitting nucleotide substitution model for the final sequence dataset, as selected by jModelTest 2.

In total, 45 partial NS5 gene WNV sequences were obtained from mosquito pools collected in Serbia between 2018 and 2020. The results obtained in this study showed that 22.5% (45/200) of mosquito pools were positive for the presence of WNV. The highest percentage of positive pools was detected in 2018 (57.8% (26/45)), followed by 2019 (26.7% (12/45)) and 2020 (15.5% (7/45)). Phylogenetic analysis conformed that only lineage 2 of WNV is circulating in Serbia. Majority of Serbian isolates clustered with Greek strains, thus forming the Balkan cluster. Of note, in one mosquito pool sampled in the Western Serbia in 2019, we detected the presence of Usutu virus.

Results obtained in the present study confirmed the presence of WNV lineage 2 in Serbia and the necessity for continuous molecular-bioinformatic monitoring of zoonotic viruses.



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## International Standard Book Number (ISBN)

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### Assigned number

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**ISBN-978-86-914897-9-3**

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