

## Course on zoonotic features of viral infections

The 4 day training course focused on delivering in-depth knowledge on the zoonotic aspects of the 4 PREDEMICS viral pathogens (Influenza A virus, V, Lyssaviruses, Japanese encephalitis virus and hepatitis E virus. The course was held at the National Institute for Infectious Diseases "L. Spallanzani" – Rome from April 8 to 11th, 2014.



Two months before the course, the trainees completed individual and team activities related to the topics of the course. These activities allowed the trainees to be fully prepared for the face to face sessions.

The three first days of the course were devoted to common topics to the 4 viruses, i.e. Animal reservoir and vectors (day 1), Crossing the species barrier (day 2) and Models for pathogen spread and transmission (day 3). In the morning there were lectures related to the three topics with the participation of invited EU and non EU speakers. In the afternoon the trainees presented and discussed the work that they had prepared during the pre-course period.

The course was attended by 26 participants from 16 countries (10 from Europe, 3 from Africa, 1 from the USA, and 2 from Asia. Nine participants were from PREDEMICS and 3 from ANTIGONE..