

Istituto Superiore di Sanità Rome, Italy

On September, 27th, three (3) confirmed human cases of WNV disease in Friuli Venezia Giulia Region (Provinces of Pordenone and Gorizia) were notified by National Epidemiology Centre on the dedicated website.

According to the national provisions, WNV NAT testing, already performed (since 15th of July) by mini-pool technique on blood donations collected in the Udine province, shall be timely implemented in all the provinces of Friuli Venezia Giulia Region (Gorizia, Pordenone, Trieste). WNV NAT testing shall be carried out by the ID technique.

Nationwide, all donors having been for at least one night in Friuli Venezia Giulia Region Provinces shall be deferred for 28 days. Alternatively, in order to avoid critical blood shortages, they can be admitted to donate provided their donations are tested by WNV NAT.

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