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Title

The Role of Medical Libraries and Information Services in the National Strategies for the Prevention and Control of the Avian Influenza and Pandemic Situation: the case of Romania

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Abstract

The paper approaches some aspects concerning the way in which emergency situations like the appearance of the avian influenza on the territory of a country can be managed, starting from the case of Romania, a country in the south east of Europe with a population of 22 millions inhabitants and situated on the migration route of the birds that come from the north of the continent in order to winter in the Danube Delta (on the Romanian territory) or in the southern parts of Europe or in Africa, and which confronted in 2005 and 2006 with the appearance of many bird flu foci. There are presented the measures taken for controlling and avoiding the spreading of the virus, the preparedness for confronting with this situation, the existing programmes and plans in order to address this issue, the projects concerning the pervention and control of such emergency situations and the role of the information professionals and libraries in the medical field in the specific national programmes.