ISDS

Emerging Health Threats Journal 2011, **4**:s100. **doi:** 10.3134/ehtj.10.100

www.eht-journal.org

ABSTRACT

Evaluation of the NATO Disease Surveillance System in Kosovo in 2010

J-B Meynard[1], H Chaudet[2], L Pellegrin[2], Y Moreno[2], O Deboosere[2], P Mornand[2], K Pennin[3], S Stein[4], B Queyriaux[2], H-U Holterm[5], A Zuendorf[3], J Kocik[3], R Migliani[1], X Deparis[2], and G Texier[2]

[1]*Ecole du Val-de-Grâce, Paris, France;* [2]*Institut de Médecine Tropicale du Service de santé des armées, Marseille, France;* [3]*NATO Consultation, Command and Control Agency, The Hague, The Netherlands;* [4]*KFOR Headquarters, Pristina, Kosovo; and* [5]*Saniaetskommando I, Preventive Medicine Department, Kiel, Germany*
E-mail: jb.meynard@wanadoo.fr

Objective
The new NATO Disease Surveillance System (DSS) was deployed for the second time in Kosovo within the multinational armed forces in 2010 for a 3 days experiment. The objective of the survey was to continue the development of real-time disease surveillance capability for NATO forces, in parallel with the implementation of the NATO Deployment Health Surveillance Centre in Munich in 2010.

Introduction
The 2010 NATO DSS experiment was the second deployment of the French 'Alerte et Surveillance en Temps Réel' (ASTER) system within a multinational armed task force in real operational conditions. This experiment was scheduled within the ASTER evaluation program (Figure 1), as constructed by French and NATO Armed Forces after several previous works.[1–3]

Methods
The DSS was set up in May 2010 within the medical facilities of six NATO allied nations taking part in the multinational armed forces task force in Kosovo (KFOR): Austria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Poland, and United States of America. Each nation received one laptop loaded with software that allowed medical data to be recorded. The recorded data was sent to a national data collection server at KFOR headquarters in Pristina. A permanent communication link was used to send the data simultaneously to the analysis centre level in Munich, where a multinational team was deployed. Real medical data were used, but also simulated data within the Polish medical facility, in order to assess the ability of the analysis level to detect and to manage a natural Norovirus outbreak. Three other types of surveys were realized: a knowledge–attitude–practice survey within the stakeholders, a study of social networks, and a Human Factor study (using Lewis, NASA, and SART questionnaires).

Results
The Norovirus outbreak was detected in real-time and adapted measures proposed by the analysis level (individual and collective hygiene measures, medical treatment, and adaptation of activities). In all, 42 people took part in the three studies (28 in Kosovo and 14 in Munich). The analysis of the results is currently in progress and will be presented during the congress.

Conclusions
This evaluation is an intermediary one, it should be strengthened by a final evaluation, promoting continuous improvement, before generalization for all the military NATO deployed units.

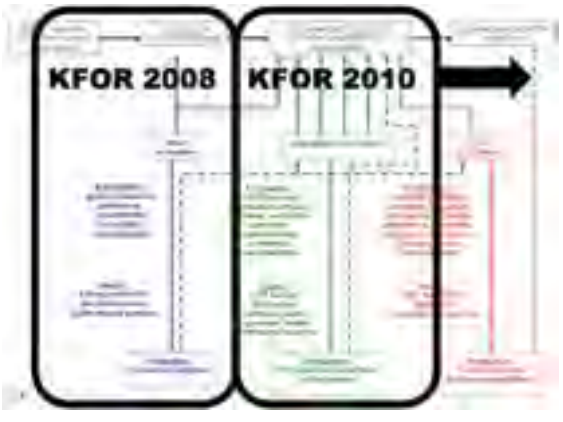

Figure 1 Intermediary evaluation for NATO 'Disease Surveillance System' deployed in Kosovo in November 2010 as a part of the whole NATO evaluation process.

Acknowledgements

This paper was presented as a poster at the 2010 International Society for Disease Surveillance Conference, held in Park City, UT, USA, on 1–2 December 2010.

References

1 Meynard J-B, Chaudet H, Green Ad, Jefferson H, Texier G, Webber D, *et al*. Proposal of a framework for evaluating military surveillance systems for early detection of outbreaks on duty areas. *BMC Public Health* 2008;**8:**146.
2 Jefferson H, Dupuy B, Chaudet H, Texier G, Green Ad, De Lesquen M, *et al*. Evaluation of a syndromic surveillance for the early detection of outbreaks among military personnel in a tropical country. *J Public Health* 2008;**30:**375–83.
3 Meynard J-B, Chaudet H, Varcol C, Decker E, Andresen S, Holterm H-U, *et al*. Evaluation of the NATO Disease Surveillance System by its users in Kosovo in 2008. *Mil Med* 2010;**175:**466–8.