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(Wyo)-Wyo Records First Human West Nile Case

By: John Axtell Posted at: 06/11/2019 12:53 PM

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - Wyoming has its first confirmed human case of West Nile Virus this year, nearly 2 months earlier than normal.

Privacy laws prohibit the Wyoming Dept of Health from identifying the patient other than to say it's a Campbell County woman who suffered the more serious, neuro-invasive form of the disease.

The World Health Organization says only about 1 in 150 people infected by the virus contract the more serious form of West Nile. Symptoms of neuro-invasive West Nile virus can include coma and paralysis.

The Wyo Dept of Health says the mosquito-borne virus doesn't usually begin appearing in people in the state until late July or August, but that the early case doesn't necessarily mean more people will be infected this year.

Wyoming had 4 human cases of West Nile and one death last year.