**Emergency vaccination with special reference to Lumpy skin disease**

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Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is an emerging viral disease of cattle and domestic buffalo, with a major socio-economic impact.

The disease causes substantial production losses for the cattle farming industry at all levels due to clinical signs, sometimes death, restrictions to cattle movements and trade.

Endemic in most African countries the LSD has spread steadily north and emerged the Middle East in last few years. Since 2012 when Israel and Lebanon reported LSD a new dynamic of the disease has been observed in Europe – the disease spread rapidly throughout the territory of the country Turkey, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Russia and Balkan countries.

LSD is vector-borne notoriously difficult to eradicate without vaccination. Most effective option for controlling the spread of LSD is achieved through coupling stamping out strategy with mass vaccination in reaching a vaccine coverage of at least 85 percent. There is no a single country have managed LSD without vaccination. Vaccination is most effective if applied before the virus enters a country or before vector season.

Only live vaccines currently available against LSDV – none of them authorised for use within the European Union. The decision to introduce vaccination against LSD as a supplement to control measures shall be taken by the Commission, in cooperation with the Member State concerned, as laid down in Directive 92/119/EEC.

Emergency vaccination against LSD is being applied in Bulgaria in the light of continuing outbreaks of lumpy skin disease (LSD).Bulgaria reported its first cases of LSD on April 13, 2016 following surveillance for the disease as a result of an increased risk of incursion from affected areas in Greece and Turkey.

Many factors should be considered to the decision to introduce vaccination: direct and indirect costs for all the different control strategies for different scenarios, movement and trade restriction, official country disease status and the consequences.