

TWO CASES OF VARIANT CREUTZFELDT-JAKOB DISEASE REPORTED IN SPAIN IN 2007 AND 2008

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In 2005, the first case of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) was reported in Spain, in a woman born in 1978 with clinical onset of symptoms in 2004 [1]. She subsequently died in 2005.

Recently, two more laboratory-confirmed vCJD cases were reported to the Spanish CJD state registry. In February 2006, a woman born in 1957 developed progressive cognitive deterioration, and died in December 2007 with suspected sporadic CJD (typical EEG in October 2007) MM at codon 129 and no mutations in PRPN gene. A man born in 1967 had onset in May 2007 with psychiatric symptoms, and after several months developed progressive cognitive decline with dementia, typical MRI, MM at codon 129, no mutations in PRPN gene. He died in February 2008. Post-mortem, neuropathology with histochemistry confirmed vCJD in both cases. No clear specific dietary habits, blood donations or reception were recorded. Neither case appears to have visited the United Kingdom before 2004.

The latest two cases were resident in the same region of the country, Castilla y Leon, but no link between them was established.

References

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