

Review of CeMV epizootics in cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea (1990-2024).

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OBJECTIVES

This study systematically reviews CeMV-infected epizootics in Mediterranean cetaceans from 1990 to 2024, aiming to analyze prevalence across species, their affected areas, and area-population impacts.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

For the drafting of this systematic review, the search engine Pubmed® was used. The keywords used in the search were "ceMV", "AeV", "Mediterranean". The total number of publications found was 93. Out of all the articles found, a total of 38 were used, as they met the objectives of the study.

Epizootics	Affected species	Affected countries and areas
1990-1994	Striped dolphins (<i>S. coarctatus</i>) and common bottlenose dolphins (<i>T. truncatus</i>).	Spain, France, Italy, Greek Islands, and Israel.
2004-2008	Long-finned pilot whale (<i>I. medialis</i>), striped dolphins (<i>S. coarctatus</i>), fin whale (<i>B. physalus</i>) and one bottlenose dolphin (<i>T. truncatus</i>).	East of Gibraltar, Atlantic Sea (Spain and Morocco), Spain, France, and Italy.
2010	Striped dolphins (<i>S. coarctatus</i>) and fin whale (<i>B. physalus</i>).	Tyrrhenian Sea (Italy) and Valencia (Spain).
2016-2017	Striped dolphins (<i>S. coarctatus</i>), sperm whale (<i>M. maurocephalus</i>), fin whale (<i>B. physalus</i>), long-finned pilot whale (<i>I. medialis</i>) and one common bottlenose dolphin (<i>T. truncatus</i>).	Catalonia (Spain) and Ionian Sea (Italy).

CONCLUSIONS

The repeated areas of CeMV circulation in the Western Mediterranean Sea and its movement towards the Eastern Mediterranean Sea are indicators that the CeMV strains in the Mediterranean Sea originate from the Atlantic Ocean.

