Human trichinellosis is an important food-borne zoonosis in Bulgaria and poses a serious threat to public health. Outbreaks and sporadic cases of trichinellosis are recorded each year in the country. Epidemiological data based on standard protocols for epidemiological surveillance and control of human trichinellosis for each region in the country were collected and analysed at the National Centre of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, NRL for Diagnosis of Parasitic Diseases.

**Aim:** to analyze the official data of the NCIPD on the Surveillance and Control of Trichinellosis among Bulgarian people for the period 2013-2017 and to determine the social and medical significance of the disease.

### Results

#### Annual incidence of trichinellosis in Bulgaria and EU for the period 2013-2017

![Graph showing annual incidence of trichinellosis in Bulgaria and EU for the period 2013-2017.](image)

**Fig. 1**

#### Number of outbreaks per month

![Pie chart showing the number of outbreaks per month.](image)

**Fig. 2**

#### Trichinella infected persons (2013-2017)

![Pie chart showing the infected persons by species and location.](image)

**Fig. 3**

#### Number of outbreaks by source of infection (2013-2017)

![Bar chart showing the number of outbreaks by source of infection.](image)

**Fig. 4**

### Conclusion

Trichinellosis remains a disease of concern for medical doctors, veterinarians and public health authorities in Bulgaria. The main source of human infection in Bulgaria is wild boar. Two *Trichinella* species (*T. britovi* and *T. spiralis*) were identified in the trichinellosis outbreaks in the five year period 2013-2017. Control for *Trichinella* in meat in Bulgaria is carried out by the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency (BFSA) and its subdivisions across 28 regions of the country. Consumption of inadequately heat-treated pig or wild boar meat was indicated as the main cause of *Trichinella* infection. Therefore, it is important to continue educating hunters and other people about the risk of acquiring *Trichinella* infection by eating undercooked (game) meat/meat products.

### References