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# Media Scanning & Verification Cell



Media alert from the Media Scanning & Verification Cell, IDSP-NCDC.

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
5382	09.07.2019	09.07.2019	Hyderabad Telangana	<a href="http://www.timesofindia.com/English">www.timesofindia.com/English</a> <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/surge-in-je-cases-govt-to-ramp-up-vaccination-drive/articleshowprint/70135330.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/surge-in-je-cases-govt-to-ramp-up-vaccination-drive/articleshowprint/70135330.cms</a>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Surge in Japanese Encephalitis cases, govt to ramp up vaccination drive</b>			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Hyderabad, SSU-Telangana			

The incidence of rare Japanese Encephalitis (JE), a mosquito borne viral infection that causes brain swelling, is on the rise in the state. As per official statistics, as compared to 11 cases reported during 2017 and 20 cases during 2018, 21 cases have already been reported so far this year. While there is no specific antiviral treatment and cure for JE, the state government is planning to upscale its JE vaccination drive.

As per the plan document to control the spread of vector-borne diseases, there has been a sporadic increase in the number of cases but no outbreaks have been reported till date. Of the 10 erstwhile districts, eight districts are covered under the JE vaccine, except Hyderabad and Rangareddy.

While the vaccine coverage ranges between 63% to 111% across districts, health authorities have planned preventive measures to control breeding of mosquitoes, vaccination as well as stocking of medicines to prevent the disease from spreading.

JE is caused by the Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV)- a virus related to dengue and yellow fever. This year, of 41 samples that were tested of patients suspected of having the disease,

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**Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,  
Ministry Of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India**

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21 patients tested positive. The tests are done at the Institute of Preventive Medicine (IPM) and Gandhi Hospital, Hyderabad.

While in most cases, people infected by the virus have no symptoms, in other cases, those affected may develop more severe symptoms like neurological symptoms ranging from headache to meningitis or encephalitis. As per the national vector-borne disease control programme (NVBDCP), symptoms can include headache, fever, disorientation, coma, tremors, paralysis (generalised) and loss of coordination among others.

The symptoms are usually reported within 5 to 15 days of the infection settling in. Symptoms of encephalitis can result in long-term complications, including deafness, and weakness on one side of the body, etc. While children face the highest risk of fatal consequences from encephalitis, the chance of surviving the disease varies.

## KNOW THE FACTS

- There is no cure for the disease. Treatment is focused on relieving severe clinical signs and supporting the patient to overcome the infection
- JE is transmitted by female mosquitoes mainly belonging to *Culex tritaeniorhynchus*, *Culex vishnui* and *Culex pseudovishnui* group. However, some other mosquito species also play a role in transmission under specific conditions
- Clinically, it is difficult to differentiate between JE and other viral encephalitis, which is why it might go unreported



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