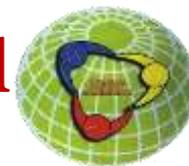




Media Scanning & Verification Cell



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

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
6335	30.09.2021	30.09.2021	Gwalior Madhya Pradesh	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhopal/kids-with-fever-flood-madhya-pradesh-hospitals-3-dead-in-gwalior/articleshow/86632143.cms
Title:	Kids with fever flood Madhya Pradesh hospitals; 3 dead in Gwalior			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU - Gwalior, SSU - Madhya Pradesh			

Paediatric wards across Madhya Pradesh are overwhelmed by a sudden surge in fever hospitalisations, at least 20-25% of them suspected to be post-Covid syndrome. Many ICUs have two children per bed.

Authorities of major district hospitals told TOI that children's wards are beyond full – that's how alarming it is. At many places, kids lie on the floor because each bed has multiple patients. At least three children have died in the past couple of days in Gwalior.

What's most worrying is the possibility of the deadly post-Covid syndrome among children. Several doctors told TOI that a significant percentage of the kids they are treating were infected with Covid-19, which went undetected because they were asymptomatic or had mild symptoms, but its longterm effects are erupting now. It's extremely difficult to diagnose this syndrome because it mimics many other more common ailments.

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

22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi – 110 054

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ALARM BELLS ACROSS STATE



Hospitals	Capacity	Patients
Rewa med college	140	250
Shahdol dist hosp	30	80
KRH, Gwalior	70	100+
Shahdol dist hosp	30	80
Sagar dist hosp	82	120
Jabalpur med college	40	77

ICUs Over-Burdened Too

- 125 children in 90 beds in Jabalpur
- 40 children in 15 beds in Rewa

Deaths: 3, in Gwalior

Post-Covid Scare:

Many of these children may have been infected with Covid earlier, which went undetected, fear doctors.

Now, it's long-term effects are erupting

“ At least 20% cases are due to post-Covid complications. These children were infected with Covid, but now there are other complications, like fever and pneumonia

— **Dr Naresh Bazaz** | HoD, paediatrics, Sanjay Gandhi Medical College, Rewa

TOI had reported on Tuesday how Gwalior's Kamla Raja Hospital (KRH) was struggling with 95 children admitted to its 50-bed paediatric facility.

On Wednesday, 20 beds were added from other departments but the number of patients surged past 100.

A five-year-old girl died on Monday, and an infant and a 10-year-old died on Tuesday night. Doctors said all three were critically ill when brought in.

“The child who died on Monday was being taken to Delhi from Chhattarpur and was brain dead when admitted here. The infant had congenital heart issues, and the 10-

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year-old, who had been brought here from Bhind (90km away), was suffering from some severe complications of the brain. She was being taken to Delhi but at the last minute, her parents brought her to us,” superintendent of Jai Arogya Hospital, Dr RKS Dhakad, told TOI. KRH is a part of this hospital.

“More than 100 kids are admitted to our hospital, and we are doing our best. It is our duty to admit and treat every patient who comes here. We have added 20 paediatric beds on Wednesday,” Dhakad said.

At Sanjay Gandhi Medical College in Rewa, more than 250 children are admitted against a capacity of 140. “There is a severe increase in cases. Bed occupancy is higher in wards for the seriously ill,” HoD, paediatrics, Dr Naresh Bazaz told TOI. The ICU has 15 beds, but there are never less than 40 patients these days, he said.

“At least 20% cases are due to post-covid-19 complications. The children were infected with Covid-19 but now there are other complications, like fever and pneumonia. There has been an increase in scrub typhus cases. We have three here. Some kids have both post-Covid syndrome as well as scrub typhus. Then, there is jaundice and brain fever,” said Dr Bazaz. In Sagar, 120 children are admitted to an 82-bed facility, Dr R S Jayant, who is in charge of the paediatric ward of Sagar district hospital, told TOI.

“Viral fever, pneumonia and dengue are major contributors. We don’t have the facility to diagnose scrub typhus, so we cannot say definitively about it,” Dr Jayant said.

In Shahdol district hospital there are 30 beds, with 40 oxygen points, but more than 80 kids are admitted there. “We have 20 beds in special newborn care unit (SNCU) and 10 in paediatric ICU. Both have nearly double occupancy,” Shahdol civil surgeon Dr GPS Parihar said, adding 450 children have been treated in September.

It’s the same story at Jabalpur’s Netaji Subhash Bose Medical College and Hospital. “We have 40 beds in the medicine department, and 77 kids are admitted there. In the

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paediatric ICU, there are 125 kids in 90 beds,” said hospital superintendent Dr R Tiwari.

In state capital Bhopal, the paediatric ward at Gandhi Medical College is at optimum capacity. “We have 200 beds for kids. Till Wednesday morning, there were 198 children admitted. We are conducting Covid-19 tests on children. So far, the reports are negative. The majority have viral fever and pneumonia,” GMC superintendent Dr Lokendra Dave said.

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