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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
3802	23/11/2016	23/12/2016	Pune Maharashtra	<a href="http://www.timesofindia.com/English">www.timesofindia.com/English</a> <a href="http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/Another-student-diagnosed-with-Japanese-encephalitis/articleshow/56128522.cms">http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/Another-student-diagnosed-with-Japanese-encephalitis/articleshow/56128522.cms</a>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Another student diagnosed with Japanese encephalitis in Pune, Maharashtra</b>			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Pune, SSU-Maharashtra			

Another case of Japanese encephalitis, a mosquito-borne viral disease, has emerged in the city, just weeks after health authorities confirmed the first case of the infection. A 21-year-old student from Hadapsar tested positive for the disease at Pune-based National Institute of Virology (NIV) on December 12.

Two cases within days has put health authorities on their toes, leading them to increase surveillance in the patients' neighbourhood. TOI reported the first case of JE in the city on December 10 after an an 18-year-old agriculture science student in the city — originally from Satara — was diagnosed with the infection at NIV on November 30. His condition was initially critical and he is currently undergoing treatment at Deenanath Mangeshkar hospital (DMH).

This is the first time in Pune and western Maharashtra that cases of Japanese encephalitis (JE) have been detected as the disease is usually seen in the state's eastern districts. Experts say the spread of the disease is a cause for concern as it indicates the virus is circulating in a wider geographical area.

"The infected person is a student who stays in Kalepadal in Hadapsar. His blood sample, sent to NIV, tested positive for JE on December 12," a doctor from Sassoon hospital, where the patient underwent treatment, said.

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**Disclaimer:- This is a media alert subject to verification.**

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

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एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

"We have directed health officials to conduct entomological surveillance in the areas where both the patients stayed to curb the spread of the vector. Besides, we have also directed health officials to conduct fever surveillance in these areas and send blood samples of suspected patients to NIV for testing," joint director (vector-borne diseases) of state health department Kanchan Jagtap said.

When contacted, state surveillance officer Pradeep Awate of the state health department said, "Such cases were never seen in Pune earlier. Barring a lone outbreak recorded in Sangli district's village Budhgaon in 1999, the JE virus was never reported in western Maharashtra."

Awate added that it was important to find out the epidemiological linkage of both the Japanese encephalitis cases recorded in the city. "An entomological study is warranted to see if the virus has undergone any change in its genetic make up or if there is any change in the vector mosquito itself," Awate said.

The culex type of mosquito, which feeds on animal blood especially pigs is the main vector of the disease in Maharashtra. "Prevention and containment are key as there is no specific drug, and treatment of JE is symptomatic. People should keep their surroundings clean. Besides, those living in proximity of animals or piggeries should take extra precaution. Larvicides must be used periodically in ponds with vegetation as they provide a conducive atmosphere for the vector to breed and propagate. Regular cutting of water hyacinth is also very important," Awate said.

A health official from the Pune Municipal Corporation said the civic body has taken up fogging as well as spraying of insecticide and larvicide around the patients' neighbourhood. "We are also cutting hyacinth regularly," the official added.

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