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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
3806	24/11/2016	26/12/2016	Solapur Maharashtra	www.timesofindia.com/English http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/Boy-dies-of-Japanese-encephalitis-in-Solapur/articleshow/56147336.cms
Title:	Boy dies of Japanese encephalitis in district Solapur, Maharashtra			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Solapur, SSU-Maharashtra			

After infecting two students in Pune, the mosquito-borne virus causing Japanese encephalitis (JE) has claimed the life of a nine-year-old child in Solapur.

This is the first death caused by the virus in Maharashtra so far this year. The child's blood samples had tested positive for JE at Pune-based National Institute of Virology (NIV).

This is the first time that cases of JE are being detected in western Maharashtra as earlier the disease was only seen in the state's eastern districts. Barring a lone outbreak in Sangli district's village Budhgaon in 1999, the virus was never reported in western Maharashtra.

The emergence of three cases within weeks has put health authorities on their toes, compelling them to increase surveillance in the infected patients' neighbourhood. Experts say the spread of the disease is a cause for concern as it indicates that the virus is circulating in a wider geographical area.

The Solapur patient is the lone case of JE recorded in the paediatric age group in the last few days.

"The child had onset of illness from November 30. He was admitted to a state-run medical college attached hospital in Solapur where his condition further deteriorated. His condition was critical. He died on December 4. His blood sample sent to NIV tested positive for the virus on December 8," state surveillance officer Pradeep Awate

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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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told TOI on Friday.

The child's family stays on Vijapur Road in Solapur. The Kambar lake, which has lot of aquatic vegetation conducive for mosquito breeding, is about one-and-a-half kilometres from his home.

"We have already stepped up surveillance in and around the child's neighbourhood. We have also directed health officials to carry out fever surveillance and send blood samples of suspected JE patients to NIV for testing," Awate said.

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