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



Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
3509	12.07.2016	12.07.2016	Aurangabad Maharashtra	www.timesofindia.com/English http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/aurangabad/Five-year-old-dies-of-gastro-in-Gangapur-50-more-affected/articleshowprint/53146553.cms?null
Title:	Five-year-old dies of gastro, 50 more affected in Gangapur in district Aurangabad, Maharashtra			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Aurangabad, SSU- Maharashtra			

The region has hailed the recent and consistent heavy showers after months of drought, but accompanying water-borne diseases have considerably dampened the joy.

Aurangabad has witnessed a spurt in gastroenteritis cases, which worsened on Friday after the district registered its first death of gastroenteritis on Friday. At least 50 people, including eight children of two villages Mehadipura and Thana in Gangapur and Aurangabad talukas have been affected by gastroenteritis in the last three days. Belonging to Mehadipura and Thana villages, they are undergoing treatment at various government hospitals.

"The victim was Ganesh Dalvi, a five-year-old child from Mehadipura village in Gangapur taluka who succumbed while undergoing treatment for gastroenteritis succumbed to the disease on Friday," said Vivek Khatgaonkar, additional health officer, Aurangabad district Vivek Khatgaonkar.

"As many as eight children from the village suffered from gastroenteritis and were shifted to Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) after their condition started to deteriorate," he added.

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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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Elaborating on the steps taken by the district to combat the situation the officer said, "A rapid response team consisting of a medical officer was immediately deputed to the village with a population of 200 people. A door-to-door survey was also conducted to ascertain the exact number of cases. Around 20 people were found to be suffering from loose motions and vomiting."

Water contamination can be seen as one of the main reasons for sudden break-out of the disease. "The sudden spurt in the number of gastroenteritis cases can be attributed to water contamination. We have collected water samples and appealed to the gram panchayat to take preventive measures to combat water contamination," Khatgaonkar added.

Meanwhile in Thana village, 40 people were found to be suffering from the gastroenteritis and one has contracted typhoid in the past three days span.

"Among the 40 people, 12 were given treatment at a camp set up in a school in the village, while 14 patients were admitted to Garandi PHC and eight are undergoing treatment at rural hospital in Soygaon, who were later referred to Civil Hospital in Jalgaon on Saturday," said Khatgaonkar. Gastroenteritis is a common ailment during the monsoon season. One of the most common symptoms of the disease includes vomiting and diarrhoea which causes dehydration. Other symptoms include painful cramps in the stomach, bodyache, fever, waves of nausea and giddiness. If you suffer from some of these symptoms or notice a family member suffering from them, it is best to get checked by a doctor to rule out any ailments, he said.

Senior citizens and children are more susceptible to dehydration, so it is important that they stay adequately hydrated, he said.

As monsoon has set in, there are chances of drinking water getting contaminated resulting in the spread of the disease. The gram panchayats have been urged to disinfect regularly the tubewells and streams in their areas, he said.

They have been asked to repair the defunct tubewells as early as possible and conduct periodic sample tests. The health department will take steps for making the public aware about the disease and the preventive steps to be taken, he said.

Maintaining simple hygiene practices such as frequent hand washing especially before meals helps prevent communicable diseases. Have a balanced and protein rich

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diet and not to forget to include antioxidant rich foods such as green tea, fresh fruits and assorted nuts to fight against infections and have strong immunity, he advised.

There could be several causes of gastroenteritis. These include:

- Consuming contaminated food or water.
- Following unhealthy hygiene habits or coming in contact with someone who already has the virus.
- Since the disease is often referred to as a foodborne disease, it is best to avoid eating out during this season.
- Make sure you boil all drinking water and keep the kitchen area clean and dry.
- Cook all food items thoroughly don't leave anything undercooked.
- Don't keep cut fruits and vegetables open for a long time. Consume them soon after cutting.
- It is also advisable to maintain good hygiene habits wash your hands every time after visiting the washroom.
- Use a hand sanitiser while travelling.

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