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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
4084	01.06.2017	02.06.2017	Dakshina Kannada Karnataka	www.timesofindia.com/English http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mangaluru/suspected-dengue-death-worries-health-officials/articleshowprint/58946934.cms
Title:	Suspected dengue death worries health officials in district Dakshina Kannada, Karnataka			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Dakshina Kannada , SSU-Karnataka			

With a death suspected due to dengue in the district, the vector-borne diseases have arrived along with monsoons. But there seems to be a serious problem at hand with district health officials suspecting whether a different serotype of the virus had caused this death.

In Dakshina Kannada, out of the four antigenically different serotypes of the virus only (Dengue virus) DENV-2 and DENV-3 are found. District Health Officials say that in case DENV-1 or DENV-4 strains are responsible for the death, then matters become worse as it leads to complications like a life-threatening syndrome called Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) or Dengue Shock Syndrome (DSS).

Dr Rajesh said the Dengue fever cases were reported from Yedamangala area bordering Sullia-Puttur taluks. "Last year this area did not have many cases. The death was of a female patient was confirmed as NS1 positive in a private lab. We have not tested it. We have sent the smear for Elisa test to Manipal Centre for Virus Research (MCVR). The report is expected by Friday," he said.

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**Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
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Regarding the change of serotype, Dr rajesh admitted that if that happens, it will be a serious issue. "Usually we have seen only two serotypes DENV 2 and DENV 3. Those who were affected by these serotypes will not get the same virus serotype again. But if the person gets infected by DENV 1 or DENV 4, the low immunity would lead to DHF or DSS," he said. The officials will send samples for serotype testing once they get more samples.

Dengue is caused by Dengue virus (DENV), a mosquito-borne flavivirus. DENV causes a wide range of diseases in humans, from a self-limited Dengue Fever (DF) to a life-threatening syndrome called DHF or DSS.

A serotype is a group of viruses classified together based on their antigens on the surface of the virus. These four subtypes are different strains of dengue virus that have 60-80% homology between each other. The major difference for humans lies in subtle differences in the surface proteins of the different dengue subtypes. Infection induces long-life protection against the infecting serotype, but it gives only a short time cross protective immunity against the other types. The first infection causes mostly minor disease, but secondary infections have been reported to cause severe diseases (DHF or DSS) in both children and adults, states Dengue Virus Net, web resource for Dengue.

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