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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 |
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| 6393 | 27.10.2021 | 28.10.2021 | Nagpur Maharashtra | www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/nagpur/dengue-e-cases-up-750-this-year-after-prolonged-monsoon/articleshowprint/87289722.cms |
| Title: | Dengue cases up 750% this year after prolonged monsoon in district Nagpur, Maharashtra | | | |
| Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC | Information communicated to DSU – Nagpur, SSU – Maharashtra | | | |

As the delayed monsoon withdrawal is paving way for diseases to thrive, including an upsurge in dengue, medical experts have sounded caution. The alarm comes in the wake of alarming rise in dengue cases this year.

In comparison to 390 dengue cases, including two deaths, in Nagpur division from January to October last year, the jump this year is more than 750% to take the number of cases to 3,317 and 17 deaths in the same period in six districts — Nagpur, Wardha, Bhandara, Gadchiroli, Gondia and Chandrapur.

In the first 21 days of October, 82 dengue cases were detected in the city. Last year, there had been same number of cases (82), but between January and October.

What is more worrisome is the fact that in a span of just four days, between October 21 and October 25, 41 dengue cases have been reported in city. The number of total dengue cases in October till 25th has touched 123 in city.

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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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In rural district, there had been 61 cases of dengue in October this year.

City has recorded total 894 dengue cases and five deaths from January to October 25 this year, while 1,210 cases were recorded in rural district till October 21.

Most city doctors attributed the rise in dengue cases to the prolonged tail of monsoon, apart from other factors contributing to it including Covid-induced weakened immunity.

Infectious diseases specialist Dr Ashwini Tayade said the jump in dengue cases is the result of improper drainage and waterlogging making things favourable for mosquito-breeding and also other epidemiological factors.

Apart from dengue and handful cases of malaria, the doctors also cautioned about bacterial diseases like scrub typhus and leptospirosis having started to surface with more frequency along with a steady rise in upper respiratory track infections (URTI) like common flu.

Dr Nirmal Jaiswal, critical care consultant and intensivist, said dengue is definitely lingering, but scrub typhus is topping the list. "We are getting several patients with URTI or flu, loose motion and many cases of gastroenteritis in the last 10 days," said Dr Jaiswal, adding there has been a steady flow of scrub typhus patients from different parts of Central India, having kidney, heart, liver, lungs, heart and brain involvement along with high grade fever.

Intensivist Dr Nikhil Balankhe of Viveka Multispecialty Hospital said the delayed monsoon withdrawal has certainly resulted in the rise in dengue and viral infections. "We have also received swine flu patients, apart from leptospirosis, scrub typhus and malaria," he said. "Covid has also played some role in reducing general immunity," he said.

Well known physician Dr Rajesh Atal said there is spurt in dengue, malaria, chikungunya, meningitis etc cases due to hot and humid days and cooler nights with occasional drizzle. "Earlier, cases like dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases would wrap up by September end or October beginning, but this time these are thriving with certain potency to watch out for," said Dr Atal.

Internal medicine specialist Dr Nitin Wadaskar said dengue was expected to slow down in October, but patients are still getting diagnosed with it. "We are also getting patients with Covid-like symptoms, who are suffering from flu. But, surprisingly

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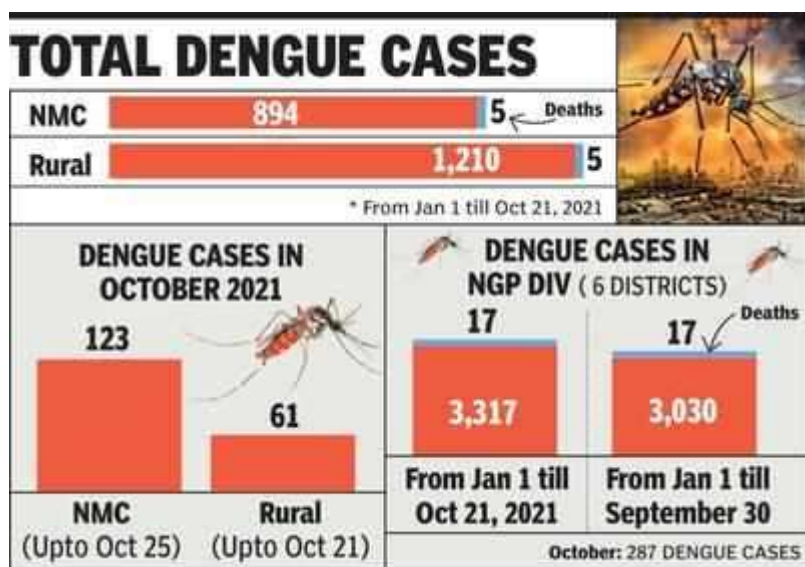
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many cases of leptospirosis too are seen, which can be attributed to rainy season,” he said, adding the other threat is from scrub typhus.

Infectious disease specialist Dr Nitin Shinde said, “In India, flu-like diseases can be attributed to social gatherings, among other factors.” “Multiple cases of diarrhoea, hepatitis A and E, food poisoning too are being reported. People need to be watchful against leptospirosis and scrub typhus, which come with jaundice, fever and can lead to multiple organ involvements,” said Dr Shinde, warning people visiting farmhouses, resorts, farmlands, camping, forest safaris or getting involved in water sports, swimming and such activities. “One must be watchful about teaks and mites from animals or grasslands and must have disinfectant baths after visiting such places,” he said.



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