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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
4791	03.08.2018	03.08.2018	Bathinda Punjab	www.tribuneindia.com/English <a href="https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/bathinda/15-test-positive-for-malaria-in-two-months/631202.html">https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/bathinda/15-test-positive-for-malaria-in-two-months/631202.html</a>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>15 test positive for malaria in two months in district Bathinda, Punjab</b>			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- <b>Bathinda</b> , SSU- <b>Punjab</b>			

The medicine OPD at the Civil Hospital has witnessed a number of malaria patients in July. Of the total 208 patients tested at the government hospital laboratory, 15 were tested positive for malaria in the past two months. A majority of these malaria patients are from the outskirts of the city where anopheles mosquito breed on the accumulated water in the open and large uncovered water tanks. Health Department officials claimed that owing to extensive door-to-door activity and awareness drives, the number of malaria patients had dwindled this year as compared to last year. In July, 11 patients were tested positive for malaria this year. As per the Health Department's data 55 patients were infected with malaria in 2017.

District epidemiologist Rajpal Singh said, "The peak season for malaria spread is from July till September. Owing to awareness drives, door-to-door surveys and field activity all across the district, we have managed to contain the malaria menace to a large extent this year." Rajpal Singh added, "We have released gambusia fish in 259 ponds at different villages in the district that has shown results as the number of malaria patients dropped this year. Gambusia or popularly called mosquitofish feed on mosquito larvae for preventing malaria transmission. We have asked villagers

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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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and city residents to not let water accumulation for longer duration to prevent breeding of mosquitoes.”

Meanwhile, the Health Department team carried out checks at different locations in the city and found 43 dengue larvae from residential areas situated in Ganesha Basti, Ajit Road and Kamla Nehru Colony.

Sources in the Health Department said the increase in the number of larvae collections in the city areas could be partly attributed to the Municipal Corporation’s lackadaisical attitude.

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