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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
4792	04.08.2018	06.08.2018	Nagpur Maharashtra	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/nagpur/surge-in-hepatitis-a-and-e-cases-in-city-but-not-an-epidemic/articleshow/65264339.cms
Title:	Surge in hepatitis A and E cases in Nagpur- Maharashtra, but not an epidemic			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Nagpur, SSU-Maharashtra			

The city has been witnessing a surge in hepatitis (A and E virus) or jaundice cases in last one month. There has been a rise of two to three times in cases at private hospitals and nearly double the cases were seen in both government medical colleges (GMCs). However, the situation is far from becoming an epidemic so there is no cause for panic.

Since both these are food and water borne infections, which are common during monsoon, almost every physician is seeing these cases. But as there is no definitive cure for the viral diseases, patients are treated symptomatically with supportive care to liver. Doctors are saying that diet also plays an important role in this.

GMCH PRO Dr Girish Bhuyar said that though there is no data in the form of numbers of these patients (as this is not a notifiable disease) there has been a rise in cases of both types of hepatitis in last one month. But a majority of these cases are being treated on OPD basis. Though some do need hospitalization due to dehydration. Professor and head of medicine department at Indira Gandhi Government Medical College and Hospital Dr PP Joshi also said that most patients are being treated on OPD basis while a few are admitted.

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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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Page 1



Dr Aamol Meshram from north Nagpur said that the rise is almost 2-3 times in last fortnight or more. "There is no specific medicine for the treatment. Hence, providing supportive care to liver, good carbohydrate-rich diet, multivitamins is a must. In cases of severe dehydration, intravenous fluids are also given," he said.

Dr Nikhil Balankhe, who has patients from south and central Nagpur, has seen a three times rise in cases. "Good thing is that no one comes in very critical condition. The viral hepatitis A is easier to manage and takes less time to recover, roughly two-and-a-half-weeks, but viral E hepatitis takes anywhere between one to two months. People require to be away from their jobs and work. "Both viruses are not very virulent, hence though the recovery time is more the danger to body is not more," he said.

Dr Ashok Urkude, former NMC health official from east Nagpur, says that contamination in water is there in some pockets and he is seeing 3-4 patients daily. Dr Shankar Khobragade also from north Nagpur said that there has been a definite rise in number of cases but there was no cause of worry. "It is not an epidemic-like stage. The situation is manageable," he said. Gastroenterologist Dr Shrikant Mukewar says that he is also getting some difficult cases referred by physicians, but this number is not too high.

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