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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
3485	25.06.2016	27.06.2016	Nagpur Maharashtra	www.timesofindia.com/English http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/nagpur/Cholera-resurfaces-in-city-with-22-cases-in-2-months/articleshow/52908272.cms
Title:	Cholera resurfaces in city with 22 cases in 2 months in Nagpur, Maharashtra			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Nagpur , SSU- Maharashtra			

Cholera, which had disappeared from the city in last two years, has resurfaced with 22 positive cases detected in April and May. 80% of the cases found in two months are all of kids less than 10 years, within that, maximum cases are notified from Indira Gandhi Government Medical College and Hospital (IGGMC).

According to annual report of NMC health department, nine cases were detected in April, where five were males and four females. During May it rose to 19 cases where four were males and nine females. One common observation has been that most of the patients were a part of a common procession that went out in the city during April, where the kids must have drunk or eaten something inappropriate, told an official from health department. All the kids have mild to moderate cases and can get better within a week, he told.

He added that cholera is majorly caused by consuming contaminated water, but stale food can also cause the same effect. "Ultimately it's the moisture content of the stale food that causes cholera which is a waterborne disease," the official said.

The first cholera case was spotted at Naik Talav in April. "The moment we started getting cases, we have been taking measures to avoid it from becoming an epidemic.

Save Water- Save Life, Save a tree- Don't print unless it's really necessary!

Disclaimer:-This is a Media Alert and pending verification.

**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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We have been collecting every single patient's personal details from IGGMC, reach their locality, collect water sample and supply it to the State Government Laboratory in Mumbai. The laboratory tests the sample and notifies the water as safe or unsafe. We have been performing all this with every cholera case from last two months and until now we haven't found any instance of unsafe drinking water at any patient's locality," the official said.

He also said, "Generally it takes 10 to 15 days for the laboratory to send back the sample reports. Meanwhile NMC takes other precautions. For instance, we target the localities where we spotted patient and thereby ask water works department to raise the percentage of chlorination in water supplied to that particular area."

He said, "All the 22 patients are residents of areas which are far away from each other. If it was an epidemic then at least 100 would have easily succumbed to the disease from a single locality."

According to the report, the highest number of cases in 2016 was those of gastroenteritis, followed by acute respiratory infections. In another observation, more number of females are being affected by gastroenteritis, as compared to males. Total 95 cases of gastroenteritis were found in April, which increased to 273 in May. While as against 13 cases of acute respiratory infection in April, there were 17 cases in May; however last year in the same months there were only 2 and 4 cases.

Orange City Hospital director Dr Anup Marar blames contaminated drinking water as the ground reason for the presence of both the disease. "A lot of reason can cause gastroenteritis, like food hygiene and unclean palm but the main reason spotted in day to day life is contaminated water, either we drink it directly or utilize it for washing utensils," said Marar.

When NMC superintending engineer Shashikant Hastak was asked about the drinking water's hygiene supplied by NMC, he said that a lot of areas surrounding the city which have not been rehabilitated yet lack proper supply. He said that work of replacing leaked pipelines and network in the entire city has already been started, we can expect to finish the whole work within the next one and half years."

In April 2016, out of the 574 water samples being tested around the city, 63 of them were found contaminated. Water sample report of March is not present.

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