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Media alert from the Media Scanning & Verification Cell, IDSP-NCDC.



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3755	09/11/2016	09/11/2016	Ahmedabad Gujarat	The Times of India/English newspaper 09th Nov., 2016/Page No.01
Title:	Ahmedabad reels under dengue, chikungunya in district Ahmedabad, Gujarat			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Ahmedabad, SSU- Gujarat			

Of over 5,000 vector-borne cases this season, 800 are dengue cases

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Ahmedabad: Mridul Gadhvi, a science professor in a city college, is not able to walk due to fluid collection in his knee. Doctor has strapped his knee in braces and asked him to keep it straight, avoid any loading on the joint. Gadhvi's knee problem is surprisingly due to dengue fever.

"Dengue is causing unusual symptoms. Even before I had fever, my knee stopped taking load. I consulted an orthopedic surgeon but once I got high grade fever, the knee problem was attributed to fluid collection due to high colony count of mosquito-related viral load on the knee",

says Gadhvi who is looking at few more weeks towards total recovery.

Ahmedabad is reeling under dengue attack this season and the onset of winter, when mosquito related diseases generally recede, has provided little relief. Number of malaria cases-over 5,000 recorded between July to November 5 in municipal hospitals alone-is pegged to be eight-year high. Of these, nearly 800 were dengue cases and 76 chikungunya cases. In first five days of November, 12 cases have been reported.

"Despite onset of winter, we continue to see dengue and chikungunya cases. There is a big number of viral arthri-

tis cases too where symptoms mimic chikungunya while the test is negative", says physician Dr Manoj Vithlani. Medical experts claim large number of patients are suffering from double whammy of chikungunya and dengue fever at the same time. Mutated viral strain is con-

sidered villain behind such mixed infections.

"I have attended to over 80 cases of and in such cases, the disease progression is faster and it lasts for a longer time too. Patients often experience high-grade fever which lasts for days with lesser known symptoms such as breath-

lessness and vertigo- not common symptoms for dengue and chikungunya.

"I have personally attended to close to 100 cases of dengue and chikungunya of which around 10% were mixed infections. Patients are advised against self-medication and consult a doctor as in such cases, platelet counts critically drop and patient would succumb to multiple organ failure," said Dr Anish Joshi, secretary, Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine.

Dr Yogendra Modi, president, Indian Medical Association - Gujarat State Branch, said, "Viral arthralgia i.e. severe joint pain and even neuralgia i.e. numbness of nerves and frequent tingling sensation is often experienced by five out of 10 chikungunya patients in the area."

'DECLARE VADODARA DENGUE-AFFECTED'



Vadodara: The rising number of dengue cases in the city has sparked a row at the Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC).

VMC opposition leader Chandrakant Shrivastava has demanded that Vadodara should be declared as dengue-affected in wake of sudden surge in the number of dengue positive cases even as the mercury levels are coming down with each passing day.

"The civic body has failed to perform its basic duty of ensuring health of citizens. The health department has completely failed. Even as crores are spent from the civic body's budget, the health related activities are nowhere to be seen," said Shrivastava.

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

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