

# WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORT A publication of the Epidemiology Unit <br> Ministry of Health, Nutrition \& Indigenous Medicine 231, de Saram Place, Colombo 01000, Sri Lanka <br> Tele: + 9411 2695112, Fax: +94 11 2696583, E mail: epidunit@sltnet.Ik Epidemiologist: +94 11 2681548, E mail: chepid@sltnet.Ik Web: http://www.epid.gov.lk 

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23 ${ }^{\text {rd }}-29^{\text {th }}$ March 2019
It is time to know your TB status, for a TB free Sri Lanka Part II

- $\quad$ Sustainability in treatment

Treatment should be initiated for all the diagnosed TB patients following a thorough counselling by a medical officer. Both patients and family members should be made aware of all the relevant aspects of TB including the importance of continuing treatment.

The risk conditions for the interruption, such as drug addiction, lack of family support etc should be identified at the initial discussion and remedial actions should be taken early. Building good rapport with the patient s will help them to sustain treatment.
Patient-friendly Directly Observed Treatment (DOT) services are another key component in the prevention of treatment interruption and timely detection of drug adverse effects.

## - Tracing of treatment interrupters

Treatment interruption may lead to the development of resistance to anti TB drugs. Treatment of drug-resistant forms of TB including multi-drug resistant \& extensively drug-resistant TB is usually prolonged and costly. These conditions are difficult to treat and may have poor treatment outcomes.

Therefore, tracing of interrupters early and bringing them back for treatment is crucial in TB management and prevention. The support of field health staff is very important in tracing the interrupters and for continuous monitoring and follow up of treatment.

## - Community Empowerment

TB is a disease associated with stigma. The myths and beliefs in the community affect the health-seeking behaviour of the community and decisions taken on healthier choices of life. The community should be empowered with adequate knowledge and skills on TB for improvement in healthseeking behaviour, better acceptance and sustainability of treatment and reducing stigma.

## - Addressing social determinants of health

TB is a disease associated with poverty. Every possible measure should be taken to improve the socio-economic status of patients and their families. It is important in improving the utilization of health care services and sustaining patients in TB care and treatment. Multi-sector involvement is very important in this aspect.

| Contents | Page |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. Leading Article - It is time to know your TB status, for a TB free Sri Lanka Part II | 1 |  |
| 2. | Summary of selected notifiable diseases reported $\left(16^{\text {th }}-22^{\text {nd }}\right.$ March 2019 $)$ | 3 |
| 3. | Surveillance of vaccine preventable diseases \& AFP $\left(16^{\text {th }}-22^{\text {nd }}\right.$ March 2019) | 4 |

## WER Sri Lanka - Vol. 46 No. 13

Social benefits scheme can be provided through the Department of Social Services. Support of the nongovernmental organizations/community-based organizations need to be obtained for the provision of transport facilities, organising screening programmes, introducing mi-cro-financing activities to affected families and provision of incentives to patients.

Distribution of microscopy centres in Sri Lanka


Table 1: Selected notifiable diseases reported by Medical Officers of Health $16^{\text {th }}-$ 22 $^{\text {nd }}$ March 2019 (12 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Week)


## WER Sri Lanka - Vol. 46 No. 13

23 rid 29th March 2019
Table 2: Vaccine-Preventable Diseases \& AFP

| Disease | No. of Cases by Province |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Number of cases during current week in 2019 | Number of cases during same week in 2018 | Total number of cases to date in 2019 | Total number <br> of cases to <br> date in <br> 2018 | Difference between the number of cases to date in 2019 \& 2018 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | W | C | S | N | E | NW | NC | U | Sab |  |  |  |  |  |
| AFP* | 00 | 01 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 01 | 00 | 24 | 11 | 118.1\% |
| Diphtheria | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 0 \% |
| Mumps | 01 | 01 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 02 | 00 | 01 | 05 | 17 | 86 | 85 | 1.1 \% |
| Measles | 01 | 01 | 00 | 01 | 02 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 05 | 06 | 43 | 29 | 48.2 \% |
| Rubella | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 04 | 0 \% |
| CRS** | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 06 | 0 \% |
| Tetanus | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 04 | 06 | - 33.3 \% |
| Neonatal Tetanus | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 0 \% |
| Japanese Encephalitis | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 01 | 07 | 12 | - 41.6 \% |
| Whooping Cough | 00 | 00 | 01 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 01 | 02 | 20 | 09 | 122.2 \% |
| Tuberculosis | 13 | 14 | 46 | 11 | 14 | 13 | 05 | 02 | 00 | 118 | 133 | 1997 | 1761 | 13.4 \% |

## Key to Table 1 \& 2

Provinces: W: Western, C: Central, S: Southern, N: North, E: East, NC: North Central, NW: North Western, U: Uva, Sab: Sabaragamuwa.
RDHS Divisions: CB: Colombo, GM: Gampaha, KL: Kalutara, KD: Kandy, ML: Matale, NE: Nuwara Eliya, GL: Galle, HB: Hambantota, MT: Matara, JF: Jaffna, KN: Killinochchi, MN: Mannar, VA: Vavuniya, MU: Mullaitivu, BT: Batticaloa, AM: Ampara, TR: Trincomalee, KM: Kalmunai, KR: Kurunegala, PU: Puttalam, AP: Anuradhapura, PO: Polonnaruwa, BD: Badulla, MO: Moneragala, RP: Ratnapura, KG: Kegalle.
Data Sources:
Weekly Return of Communicable Diseases: Diphtheria, Measles, Tetanus, Neonatal Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Chickenpox, Meningitis, Mumps., Rubella, CRS, Special Surveillance: AFP* (Acute Flaccid Paralysis ), Japanese Encephalitis
CRS** $=$ Congenital Rubella Syndrome
NA = Not Available

## Number of Malaria Cases Up to End of March 2019, 01 All are Imported!!!

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Comments and contributions for publication in the WER Sri Lanka are welcome. However, the editor reserves the right to accept or reject items for publication. All correspondence should be mailed to The Editor, WER Sri Lanka, Epidemiological Unit, P.O. Box 1567, Colombo or sent by E-mail to chepid@sItnet.lk. Prior approval should be obtained from the Epidemiology Unit before publishing data in this publication

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