



WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORT

A publication of the Epidemiology Unit
Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine

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Flashback 2019 (Part II)

Dengue Situation

The total number of Dengue patients in 2019 was more than 100,000 and this was an increase of nearly 100% compared to 2018 which reported only 51,659 cases (an incidence of 240.9 cases per 100,000 population). In 2019, there were 150 dengue deaths reported which was nearly thrice the number seen in 2018 (58 deaths at a case fatality rate of 0.11%). Daily updates on the Dengue situation in the country is made available on the Epidemiology Unit website (www.epid.gov.lk) for public and media reference.

Several additional sentinel sites (including private hospitals) were added to the real-time on-line early warning system (DenSys). Hospital surveillance teams (ICNOs) from many parts of the island were trained on recent advancements in disease surveillance and their knowledge on dengue was updated. Clinical management aspects were improved with the training of relevant hospital staff in several districts. Emerging areas were identified about clinical management, including Dengue related maternal morbidity and mortality, early diagnosis and management of Dengue patients

at the primary care facilities (including general practitioners). An action algorithm to screen fever cases in the primary care facilities was developed and sent out to all levels of clinical care in the country.

Dengue related mortality in 2019 was seen highest (20.1%) among the 30-39 age group followed by the 20-29 (18.2%). Western province reported 53.2% of the total deaths followed by Southern province (15.6%). Issues related to dengue mortality was addressed through several clinical updates and training programmes conducted through trained specialists throughout the country. The new **National Guidelines for Management of Dengue Infection in Pregnancy** was developed jointly with the Ceylon College of Physicians (CCP) and Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (SLCOG) and was launched at the Sri Lanka Medical Association (SLMA) 132nd Anniversary International Medical Congress in July 2019. This comprehensive guideline is available made online at the Epidemiology Unit website and can be downloaded.

Institutional level Dengue death reviews were conducted in hospitals with the active

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participation of the Epidemiology Unit. The objective of this exercise was to improve the quality of care. Two national Dengue death reviews were also conducted in July and December 2019, respectively, chaired by the Director-General of Health Services (DGHS) with the participation of several clinical experts in Dengue. The primary cause of deaths by DHF continued to be with fluid overload, delayed blood transfusion and late recognition of Dengue shock.

Leptospirosis

A total of 5966 cases of leptospirosis were notified to the Epidemiology Unit in the year 2019. The highest case-load was reported from Ratnapura, Kalutara, Matara, Galle and Kurunegala districts. The Case Fatality Rate was of 1.75 per 100 cases.

Influenza

103,937 ILI cases have been reported out of 5,252,578 OPD visits through 19 influenza sentinel sites to the National Influenza Surveillance system in the year, 2019. It represents 2% of total OPD visits to the sentinel sites. Similar to the previous year's two peaks of seasonal influenza have been observed during the last year too. The highest number of cases of ILI was reported in the month of November. The first peak was observed from May to July and the second was noticed from October to December. The main circulating viruses were Influenza A, H1N1, H3N2 and B viruses. There were 50 deaths reported due to influenza during the year 2019.



Compiled by
The Editor

Table 1: Selected notifiable diseases reported by Medical Officers of Health 28th - 03rd Jan 2020 (53rd Week)

RDHS Division	Dengue Fever		Dysentery		Encephalitis		Enteric Fever		Food Poisoning		Leptospirosis		Typhus Fever		Viral Hepatitis		Human Rabies		Chickenpox		Meningitis		Leishmaniasis		WRCD	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	T*	C**
Colombo	535	20718	0	60	0	14	0	26	0	72	5	306	0	15	0	11	0	1	5	472	1	58	0	6	49	100
Gampaha	362	16242	0	49	0	10	0	5	0	32	3	157	0	5	0	11	0	2	6	473	0	29	0	174	99	
Kalutara	168	8395	1	76	0	7	0	24	1	72	11	677	2	10	0	6	0	2	9	718	1	111	0	3	61	100
Kandy	199	8940	0	103	0	13	0	11	0	33	4	117	1	97	0	6	0	3	8	313	1	71	2	62	63	100
Matale	101	2445	1	32	0	4	0	1	0	6	5	63	0	7	0	9	0	2	2	94	1	7	5	288	57	100
NuwaraEliya	16	438	0	105	0	2	0	16	0	12	2	69	5	89	0	9	0	0	1	167	0	65	0	1	25	100
Galle	102	7370	1	61	0	8	0	3	0	7	39	597	5	71	0	52	0	3	16	512	0	57	0	5	59	100
Hambantota	45	2049	1	42	0	5	0	4	0	12	13	287	2	138	0	5	0	1	8	329	0	46	0	810	71	100
Matarra	49	4054	1	43	0	4	0	8	0	20	12	555	2	46	0	25	0	1	6	344	0	17	9	630	58	100
Jaffna	378	8261	2	414	1	17	0	44	0	117	1	44	21	579	0	6	0	1	1	281	0	26	0	0	21	93
Kilinochchi	27	396	0	115	0	4	0	19	0	13	0	23	1	37	0	1	0	0	0	19	0	9	0	15	52	100
Mannar	36	271	0	6	0	2	1	16	0	1	0	2	1	12	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	10	0	1	54	100
Vavuniya	37	869	2	42	1	14	2	32	0	23	4	63	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	87	0	12	0	4	58	100
Mullaitivu	15	266	1	24	1	2	0	16	0	5	2	30	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	7	0	8	29	99
Batticaloa	264	2848	4	273	1	4	0	14	0	43	1	55	0	1	0	11	0	1	7	292	0	35	0	0	50	100
Ampara	24	388	2	87	0	4	0	0	0	19	5	68	0	2	0	12	0	0	5	331	3	29	0	5	57	100
Trincomalee	284	2969	0	52	0	1	0	0	0	66	0	27	0	21	0	5	0	1	3	257	1	14	0	7	33	100
Kurunegala	113	3213	1	82	0	23	1	7	0	31	10	345	5	35	0	24	0	4	13	658	1	108	12	851	60	96
Puttalam	75	2257	0	36	0	5	0	1	0	19	3	64	0	19	0	3	0	0	5	142	3	55	0	11	61	100
Anuradhapur	32	1161	0	74	0	13	0	7	0	13	14	245	2	50	0	25	0	2	5	533	1	101	2	556	42	91
Polonnaruwa	15	561	0	33	0	3	0	3	0	6	16	135	0	4	0	17	0	2	6	332	1	28	1	322	58	100
Badulla	54	1922	0	96	0	12	0	10	0	89	11	266	4	139	0	25	0	0	3	353	3	175	0	19	61	100
Monaragala	0	333	0	36	0	4	0	0	0	79	0	189	0	82	0	41	0	0	0	212	0	112	0	22	60	58
Ratnapura	73	4056	3	128	0	42	0	10	3	36	24	1229	2	50	2	53	0	4	9	453	6	175	0	191	48	99
Kegalle	49	2716	0	39	1	20	0	2	0	28	8	348	0	63	0	99	0	0	5	516	0	63	2	70	68	100
Kalmune	116	1529	2	121	0	2	0	1	0	64	0	37	0	3	0	4	0	0	5	281	1	31	0	0	61	100
SRILANKA	3169	10466	22	2229	5	239	4	280	4	918	19	5998	53	1589	2	460	0	30	128	8188	24	1451	33	4061	54	97

Source: Weekly Returns of Communicable Diseases (WRCD).

*T=Timeliness refers to returns received on or before 03rd January, 2020 Total number of reporting units 356 Number of reporting units data provided for the current week: 334 C**=Completeness
A = Cases reported during the current week. B = Cumulative cases for the year.

Table 2: Vaccine-Preventable Diseases & AFP

28th – 03rd Jan 2020 (53rd Week)

Disease	No. of Cases by Province									Number of cases during current week in 2020	Number of cases during same week in 2019	Total number of cases to date in 2020	Total number of cases to date in 2019	Difference between the number of cases to date in 2020 & 2019
	W	C	S	N	E	NW	NC	U	Sab					
AFP*	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	00	02	NA	82	NA	NA
Diphtheria	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	NA	00	NA	NA
Mumps	02	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	03	NA	329	NA	NA
Measles	01	00	01	00	00	00	01	00	00	03	NA	295	NA	NA
Rubella	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	NA	00	NA	NA
CRS**	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	NA	00	NA	NA
Tetanus	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	NA	21	NA	NA
Neonatal Tetanus	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	NA	00	NA	NA
Japanese Encephalitis	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	NA	09	NA	NA
Whooping Cough	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	01	NA	40	NA	NA
Tuberculosis	81	16	11	15	11	11	00	18	06	159	NA	8572	NA	NA

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

Dengue Prevention and Control Health Messages

Look for plants such as bamboo, bohemia, rampe and banana in your surroundings and maintain them free of water collection.

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@sltnet.lk. **Prior approval should be obtained from the Epidemiology Unit before publishing data in this publication**

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