

86-letters

स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग
Department of Health Research
प्राप्ति और प्रेषण अनुभाग
R. & H. Section
जारी किया: Ksh. Katra
Issued: 27/6/19

No.O.11020/01/2019-HR/eoffice-3194702

Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
(Department of Health Research)

2nd Floor, IRCS Building,
Red Cross Road, New Delhi-110001
Dated the 28th of June, 2019

Subject: Monthly Summary to the Cabinet for the month of May, 2019-Reg.

The undersigned is directed to circulate herewith a copy of the unclassified portion of the **Monthly Summary for the Cabinet** pertaining to the Department of Health Research (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) for the month of May, 2019.

Anu
28/6/19

(Anu Nagar)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

Email: anu.nagar1@gov.com

Tel No.23736222

To

1. All members of Council of Ministers
2. Deputy Chairman, NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. The Principal Information Officer, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi

Copy to:

The Director, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Copy also forwarded for information to:

1. Secretary to the Government of India, All Ministries/Departments
2. The Chairman, UPSC, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi.
3. Secretary to the President of India (Rashtrapati Ke Sachiv), Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.

4. Secretary to the Vice-President of India (Up-Rashtrapati ke Sachiv), Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. PS to Prime Minister of India, South Block, New Delhi
6. Secretary, Inter-State Council Secretariat, MHA, Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH**

MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR MAY 2019

An update on the Principal activities and key initiative undertaken by the Department of Health Research (DHR) during the month of May 2019 is indicated below:-

- a) **Emergency response to Cyclone Fani affected districts of Odisha:**
Team of scientists visited CHCs, PHCs, and villages of 11 blocks in Puri District (Brahmagiri, Chandanpur, Nimapada, Algum, Delanga, Astaranga, Krishnapada, Puri Sadar, Pipili and Gop) and conducted household surveys for fever, diarrhea and other communicable diseases. Measures suggested to state health authority to prevent impending risk of diseases.

- b) **Initiated mass drug administration of DEC and albendazole replaced with salt** double fortified with Iodine and DEC in all the Islands of Nancowry (Andaman & Nicobar).

- c) **The Pan India Resource Centre for Virus Research & Diagnostic Laboratories (RCVRDL)Diagnosis/surveillance of viruses in the state of Kerala:** A total of 1463 samples (serum 1367 and urine 96) were tested till 20th May 2019 by Zika Surveillance network and the report is being complied for submission . As part of the countrywide survey of NiVin Pteropus bats collected specimens of the throat and rectal swabs from at least 100 fruit bats from Shimla , Himachal Pradesh . Dengue serotype 1.2.3 and 4 PRNTs were performed on 6 pregnant women samples received from AIIMS ,Bhopal under the project entitled "Cohort of Zia Epidemiology in India Under the Project Influenza systemic surveillance in India ,participating VRDLs screened a total of 2005 samples ,176 were found positive for Influenza A(HINI) ,27 for Influenza A (H3N2) and 19 were positive for

Influenza B . RCVRDL released report of QA/QC program in serology to 9 participating VRDLs.

- d) **Diagnosis/ Surveillance of viruses in the state of Kerala:** A total of 399 samples were received and processed for 677 different tests. Fourteen samples were positive for enterovirus. Many of them were encephalitis cases and the enterovirus detected in CSF samples. Twelve samples were found positive for Pandemic H1N1.
- e) **Impact of climate change on mosquito abundance in coastal brackish water and wetlands of Alappuzha district of Kerala:** Surveillance of vector for Japanese Encephalitis and West Nile was conducted in Alappuzha district and a total of 1526 adult mosquitoes from single night trap and 5030 mosquito larvae (late instar -3rd and 4th stage were collected from 8 larval habitats.
- f) **Antiviral profiling of Influenza viruses in India:** A total of 20 Influenza A(H1N1) pdm09 positive clinical samples from Pune, Loni, Aurangabad, and Nasik were assessed for the H274Y mutation by allelic discrimination using real-time RT-PCR and all were found sensitive. Out of a total of 108 suspected samples referred by various Government and designated private hospitals for influenza virus; only 26 (24%) tested positive for Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09 (n=12), Influenza A (H3N2) (n=2) and Influenza B (n=12).
- g) **Investigation of encephalitis outbreak/diagnosis in India:** In May 2019, 40 samples (19 sera and 21 CSF) from 27 suspected cases of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) were received. Out of these, none were tested positive for IgM antibodies to Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV). Samples from 6 cases were also positive screened for Chandipura virus (CHPV) by IgM ELISA and from 4 cases by CHPV RT-PCR. Serum samples of 4 cases are being screened for neutralizing antibodies to JEV and CHPV.

- h) **Hospital-based surveillance of Enteric viruses in acute gastroenteritis patients and assessment of diversity in group A rotavirus strains in India:** Fecal specimens (n=10) collected from children under 5 years of age hospitalized for acute gastroenteritis in Pune recruitment site were tested for Rotavirus A (RVA), Norovirus, Adenovirus and Astrovirus. Six of the ten samples (60%) tested positive for RVA by ELISA. Genotyping revealed the presence of G3P[8] (n=2), G9P[4] (n=2), G1P8 (n=1), and G12P6 (n=1) strains. All samples tested negative for Norovirus Genogroup I and II in RT-PCR. A single specimen each showed the presence of Adenovirus (subgroup F) and Astrovirus. The study highlighted intra-genotypic variations in the RV genes studied.
- i) **Network enhancing diagnostic capabilities for surveillance, outbreaks and epidemic investigations of viral pathogens causing respiratory infections in India:** Out of 81 clinical samples of ARI and SARI cases obtained from various designated hospitals and states, tested for a panel of respiratory viruses, 23 (28%) samples tested positive for 5 different viral pathogens i.e. influenza B (n=17), influenza A (H3N2) (n=1), adenovirus (n=1), PIV (n=2), and rhinovirus (n=2).
- j) **Investigation of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome children admitted at BRD Medical College (BRDMC) Gorakhpur :** Out of a total of 10 CSF and 10 serum samples obtained from 10AES children admitted at BRDMC tested for anti-JE IgM, anti-OT IgM, and Dengue NS-1 antigen detection; only 1 tested positive for JE IgM in both serum and CSF sample.
- k) **Investigation of Non-AES cases for different etiologies at Gorakhpur:** Out of a total of 74CSF, 12 serum, 1 Blood, 1 Urine and 1 Throat Swab(TS) samples obtained from 84Non-AES/suspected cases from BRDMC or Gorakhpur District Hospital, which were subjected for sero-diagnosis of Japanese encephalitis, *Orientiatsutsugamushi* and Dengue NS1 antigen, Herpes Simplex Virus-1/2, Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV) and Cytomegalovirus (CMV); only 3 serum and 1 CSF samples

found positive for anti-JE IgM ELISA. One adult case is also tested positive for CMV through PCR in CSF.

- l) **Published a special issue of IJMR** on “Antimicrobial resistance surveillance system” in the month of May.
- m) **Signed a MoU with Indira Gandhi National Tribal University Amarkantak** for working together for betterment of tribal health.
- n) **Implementation and training** of CDPOs on various aspects of ‘Poshan Abhiyaan Mission and Nutrition’.
- o) **Establishment of Polio Essential Facility (PEF)**: Various SOPs of the work carried out inside the PEF such as entry-exit protocol, handling of spillage, handling of needle stick injury, emergency evacuation, sample receipt, etc. were prepared and revised. The project proposal was formulated for functional PEF as per GAP III at NIV, Pashan, Pune. Documentation for the closure of non-conformities raised during the NABL audit for extension of the scope of ICMR-NIV was done.
- p) **Initiated/completed 32 important projects** on various subjects emerging from utility of personal cooling garment during summer months in agricultural work and other new projects pertaining to mental health, child health, oncology, neurosciences, cardiovascular diseases, epidemiological studies .
- q) **Developed Technology** of a cost effective point of care (POC) rapid test for the diagnosis of severe Haemophilia A von Willebrand disease (VWD).
- r) **Undertook meetings** with India-Sweden Joint Committee (JCT) on Science & Technology at **Stockholm, Sweden** wherein the progress made under ICMR-FORTE Collaboration and new areas of cooperation in Health Sciences were discussed.
- s) **Awarded International Fellowships** to senior Indian bio-medical scientists under ICMR-DHR Programme 2019-20.

t) Observed '**National Dengue Day**', '**World Veterinary Day**' for One Health initiative and '**International Immunology Day**', '**World Thalassemia Day**' during the month at Belagavi, Mumbai and Dibrugarh.