



Epidemiology Unit
Ministry of Health

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE WEEKLY UPDATE

Internally Displaced Persons, Vavuniya District

No 25; Week 18 & 19 (01 - 14 May 2010)



World Health
Organization

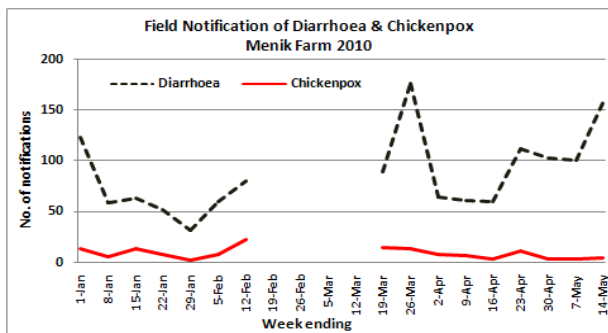
COUNTRY OFFICE FOR
Sri Lanka

According to the District Secretariat, Vavuniya, as of May 6th, 2010 total number of IDPs in Menik Farm was 70,707 consisted of 21,166 families. The sex ratio was almost 1:1 (34,273 males and 36, 434 females). Due to the resettlement, by May 12th, the total number of IDPS has come down to 59,894 consisting of 20,990. Now only six relief villages are existing i.e. zones 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6. The planned closure of zone 6 (the smallest zone with 2120 IDPs) may take place at any time as the outbreak of mumps reported in March and April 2010 is under control now.

Disease Surveillance

The trend of field notification of priority diseases (absolute numbers and weekly incidence rates) and hospital notifications is summarized below. For the calculation of incidence rates, as the denominator, total number of IDPs on May 6th and 12th were used for the weeks ending on Ma 7th and 14th respectively. Discrepancies have been observed in the number of field and hospital notifications. This was mainly due to the reluctance shown by the IDPs for hospital admission.

Fig. I: Field notification of diarrhoea and chickenpox cases by week in 2010 (up to May 14)



(Data not available between 13 February & 14 March 2010)

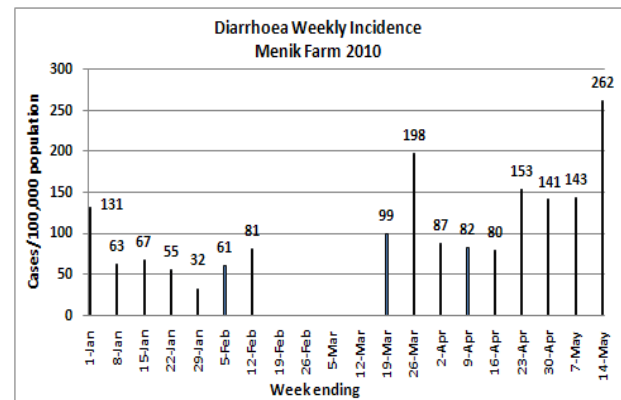
According to the disease surveillance data, many diseases which were rampant during the emergency period are now completely under control (e.g. hepatitis, typhoid, dysentery etc). Compared to early period, though there was a general

reduction in the diarrhoeal incidence, there have been reports of outbreaks during the reporting period. The massive outbreak of chickenpox was no more however isolated cases have been continuously reported. The outbreak of dengue reported during the last quarter of 2009 has been brought under control among both host population and Menik Farm IDPs. The recent outbreak of mumps is also subsiding.

Diarrhoea

Field notification: In 2010, up to May 14th a total of 1394 cases were notified. During the reporting period, 258 cases (by week: 101 cases during May 01-07 and 157 cases during May 08-14) were notified, which was comparatively much higher than the number of cases reported in the previous weeks (Fig. I). This was mainly due to the outbreaks reported mainly from zone 1, 2 and 3. The increase in fly density observed in relief villages could be a reason for the outbreaks. Another possible reason is contamination of water sources, especially Kallaru River (Galoya) following recent rainfall. Diarrhoea was also reported among the police personnel working at the relief villages. Fly control measures and strengthening of water quality surveillance were some of the measures recommended.

Fig II: Trend of weekly diarrhoeal incidence in 2010 (up to May 14)



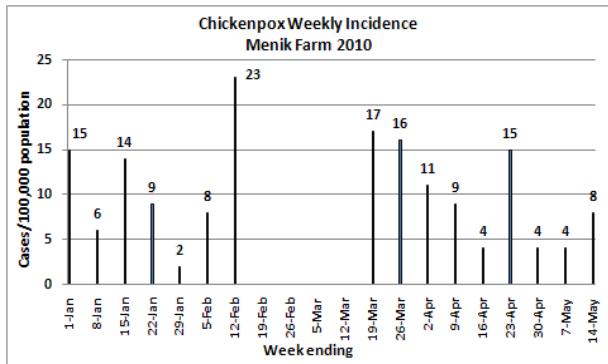
(Data not available between 13 February & 14 March 2010)

Weekly incidence: During the reporting period, the average weekly diarrhoeal incidence rates were 143 and 262/100,000 population respectively (Fig. II). Comparatively higher incidence rates were reported from zone 2 (May 01-07: 336 and May 08-14: 463/100,000), zone 3 (May 08-14: 349/100,000) and zone 6 (May 08-14: 660/100,000).

Chickenpox

Field notification: In 2010, up to May 14th a total of 143 cases were notified. During the reporting period, 08 cases (by week: 03 cases during May 01-07 and 05 cases during May 08-14) were notified (Fig. I). Only zone 0 and 4 reported chickenpox cases during the period of analysis.

Fig. III: Trend of weekly chickenpox incidence in 2010 (up to May 14)



(Data not available between 13 February & 14 March 2010)

Weekly incidence: During the reporting period, the average weekly chickenpox incidence rates were 4 (May 01-07) and 8/100,000 population (May 08-14) respectively (Fig. III).

Hospital admissions: Since the beginning of isolation of chickenpox patients at Poovarasankulam Divisional Hospital (i.e. 22 January 2009) up to 14 May 2010, the cumulative total of admissions was 17,397. All the cases notified from the field (n=8) during the reporting period were admitted to the hospital.

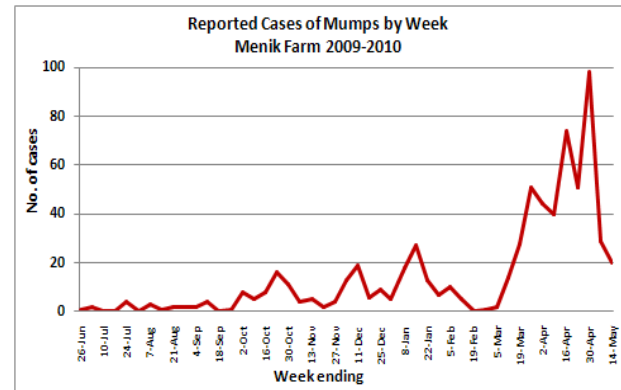
Mumps

The mumps outbreak that was reported in the 1st week of March 2010 from Menik Farm IDP sites reached the peak in the last week of April. The epidemic curve is now in the declining phase as shown in Fig. IV. Since the first case reported on 25 June 2009 up to 30 April 2010, the

cumulative total of mumps cases reported was 669. During the reporting period, 49 cases (by week: 29 cases during May 01-07 and 20 cases during May 08-14) were notified.

According to the surveillance data, since the onset of outbreak no cases were reported from zone 6. In addition, there were no cases from zone 2 during the reporting period. The bulk of the cases notified were from zone 1.

Fig. IV: Reporting of mumps cases from IDP sites in Menik Farm by week (26 June 2009 - 14 May 2010)



Other Diseases

Dengue: The outbreak of dengue, first reported in the Vavuniya MOH area in September 2009 and later spread to other areas including IDP sites, is completely under control now. No cases of dengue reported from the IDP sites in Menik Farm since January 23, 2010. From the host population, 03 cases were notified during the week May 01-07.

Hepatitis A: In 2010, up to May 14th only five cases were notified. During the reporting period, no cases have been reported.

Dysentery: In 2010, up to May 14th a total of 35 cases were notified. No cases have been reported during the reporting period.

Data sources: Directorate of IDP Healthcare Cheddikulam, Vavuniya and Cheddikulam MOH Offices, Poovarasankulam Divisional Hospital and Vavuniya District Secretariat

Compilation & Analysis: WHO Field Unit, Vavuniya

