



Epidemiology Unit
Ministry of Health

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE WEEKLY UPDATE

Internally Displaced Persons, Vavuniya District

No 26; Week 20 & 21 (15 - 28 May 2010)



World Health
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According to the District Secretariat, Vavuniya, as of May 20th, 2010 total number of IDPs in Menik Farm was 60,900 consisted of 18,145 families. The sex ratio was almost 1:1 (29,966 males and 30,934 females). Now only six relief villages are existing (i.e. zones 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6) and arrangements are being made to close zone 6 shortly.

Disease Surveillance

The trend of field notification of priority diseases (absolute numbers and weekly incidence rates) and hospital notifications is summarized below. 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 fearing family disintegration during resettlement.

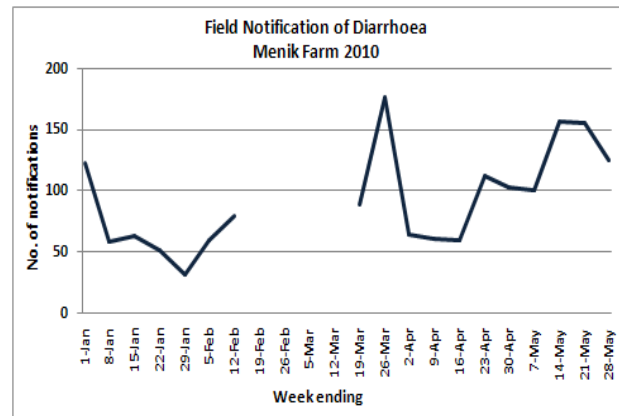
According to the disease surveillance data, many diseases which were rampant during the emergency period are now completely under control (e.g. hepatitis, typhoid, dysentery, chickenpox etc). Compared to early period, though there was a general reduction in the diarrhoeal incidence, there have been reports of outbreaks during the reporting period. The 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 28th a total of 1695 cases were notified. During the reporting period, 281 cases (by week: 156 cases during May 15-21 and 125 cases during May 22-28) were notified. Though there was a reduction in the last week of the reporting period, above figures were comparatively higher than the numbers reported in the previous weeks (Fig. I). This was mainly due to the outbreaks reported mainly from zone 1, 2 and 3. Increase in fly density and possible contamination of water sources

could be the reasons for the outbreaks. Fly control measures and strengthening of water quality surveillance were some of the measures recommended.

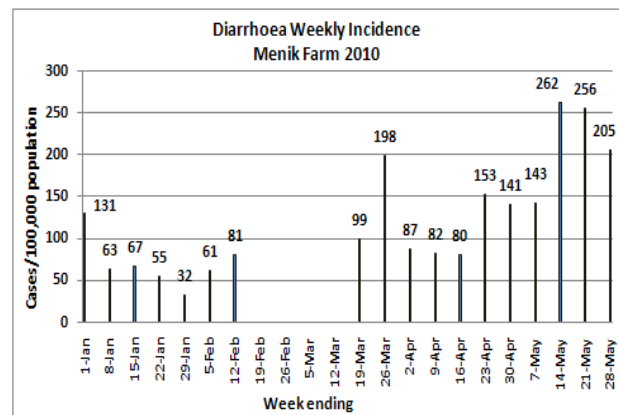
Fig. I: Field notification of diarrhoea cases by week in 2010 (up to May 28)



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

Weekly incidence: During the reporting period, the average weekly diarrhoeal incidence rates were 256 and 205/100,000 population respectively (Fig. II). Comparatively higher incidence rates were reported from zone 2 (May 15-21: 487 and May 22-28: 471/100,000), zone 3 (May 15-21: 368 and May 22-28: 230/100,000) and zone 1 (May 15-21: 223/100,000).

Fig II: Trend of weekly diarrhoeal incidence in 2010 (up to May 28)

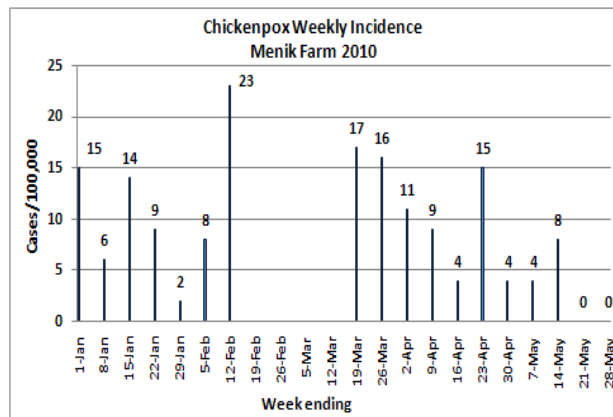


(Data not available between 13 February & 14 March 2010)

Chickenpox

Field notification: In 2010, up to May 28th a total of 143 cases were notified. Since the beginning of this year, first time nil reporting was observed in both weeks of the reporting period.

Fig. III: Trend of weekly chickenpox incidence in 2010 (up to May 28)



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

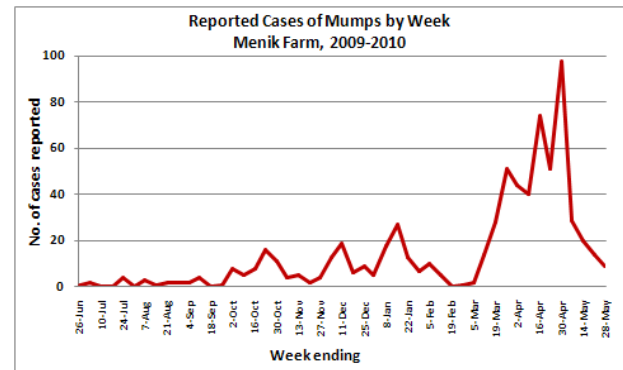
Weekly incidence: The decreasing trend in weekly incidence was clearly visible with zero incidences in both weeks of the reporting period (Fig. III).

Hospital admissions: Since the beginning of isolation of chickenpox patients at Poovarasankulam Divisional Hospital (i.e. 22 January 2009) up to 28 May 2010, the cumulative total of admissions was 17,400. During the 1st week of reporting period, 03 cases were admitted and during the last week there were no admissions. The field surveillance system failed to detect the 03 cases admitted during the week May 15-21.

Mumps

The mumps outbreak that was reported in the 1st week of March 2010 in Menik Farm IDP sites reached the peak in the last week of April. The epidemic curve is now clearly in the declining phase as shown in Fig. IV. Since the first case reported on 25 June 2009 up to 28 May 2010, the cumulative total of mumps cases reported was 692. During the reporting period, 23 cases (by week: 14 cases during May 15-21 and 09 cases during May 22-28) were notified. Most of these cases were reported from zone 1.

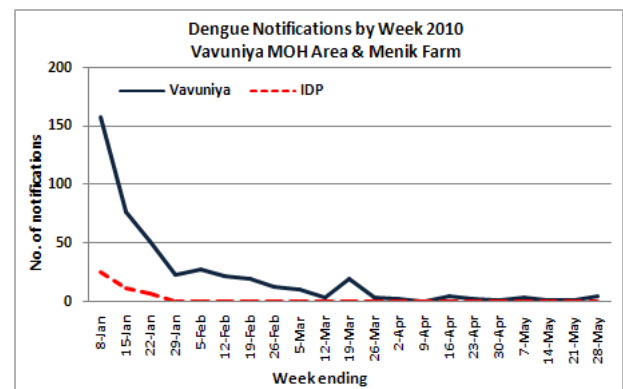
Fig. IV: Reporting of mumps cases from IDP sites in Menik Farm by week (26 June 2009 - 28 May 2010)



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 (Fig. V). No cases of dengue reported from the IDP sites in Menik Farm since January 23, 2010. From the host population, 02 cases were notified during the reporting period (one case each in both weeks).

Fig. V: Notification of dengue cases in Vavuniya MOH area and Menik Farm by week 2010



Hepatitis A: In 2010, up to May 28th only five cases were notified. During the reporting period, no cases have been reported.

Dysentery: In 2010, up to May 28th a total of 35 cases were notified. No cases have been reported during the reporting period.

Data sources: Cheddikulam Coordination Centre, Vavuniya and Cheddikulam MOH Offices, Poovarasankulam Divisional Hospital and Vavuniya District Secretariat
Compilation & Analysis: WHO Field Unit, Vavuniya