



Epidemiology Unit
Ministry of Health

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE WEEKLY UPDATE

Internally Displaced Persons, Vavuniya District

No 6; Week 29, 30 & 31 (11 - 31 July 2009)



As of 31 July 2009, the total number of IDPs was 262,096. Currently IDPs are housed in 20 sites, of which 13 are located in the Cheddikulam MOH area and the remaining are in Vavuniya MOH area. The number of IDPs in Cheddikulam MOH area was 246,053 (94%). One IDP site in Vavuniya MOH area is exclusively for elders.

Disease Surveillance

Disease surveillance in the zones (zone 0-5), located in the Cheddikulam MOH area, is coordinated by the Cheddikulam Coordination Centre. The total number of IDPs in these zones was 224,394 (86% of total number of IDPs). During the period of analysis, no disease surveillance reports were received from newly established zone 5 where the number of residents was 5480.

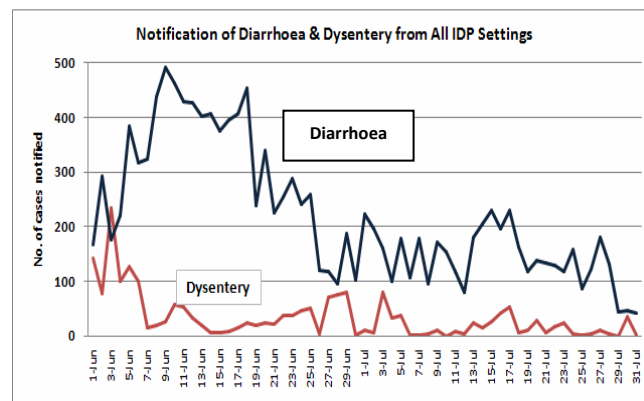
In the remaining IDP sites in Cheddikulam and Vavuniya MOH areas which are smaller in size, disease surveillance activities are conducted by the respective MOH. As there are issues regarding the jurisdiction (Cheddikulam or Vavuniya South MOH area) of some of the newly opened IDP sites, the flow of disease surveillance information is not satisfactory from those sites.

Table 1 (page 2) shows the trend of weekly incidence for priority diseases based on the notifications from field hospitals/ mobile health units from June 1 to July 31, 2009. For all diseases analyzed, the incidence for the last week of the reporting period (i.e. July 25 - 31) was considerably less than that of previous week (i.e. July 18 - 24), except for chickenpox.

Diarrhoea

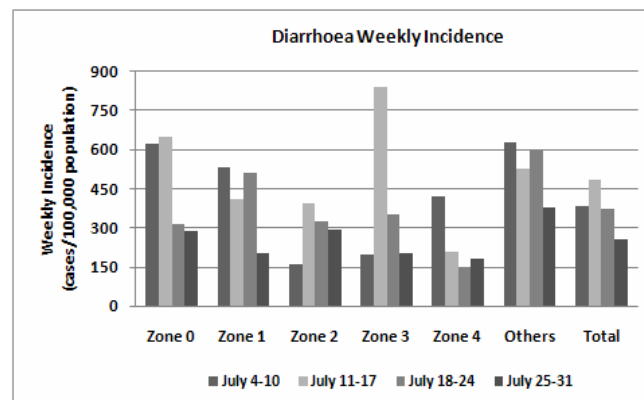
Field notification: Frequent 'peaks' in the number of diarrhoea cases (Fig. I) were observed during the reporting period (11-31 July 2009). During this period, a cumulative total of more than 500 cases were reported from zone 1 (531), zone 2 (660) and zone 3 (620).

Fig I: Field notification of diarrhoea and dysentery cases 01 June - 31 July 2009



As shown in Fig. II, the incidence rates of diarrhoea for the last week of reporting period (July 25-31) in smaller camps (379/100,000), zone 2 (293/100,000) and zone 0 (289/100,000) were more than the average incidence for all IDP sites (254/100,000).

Fig II: Trend of weekly notification of diarrhoea cases by IDP site



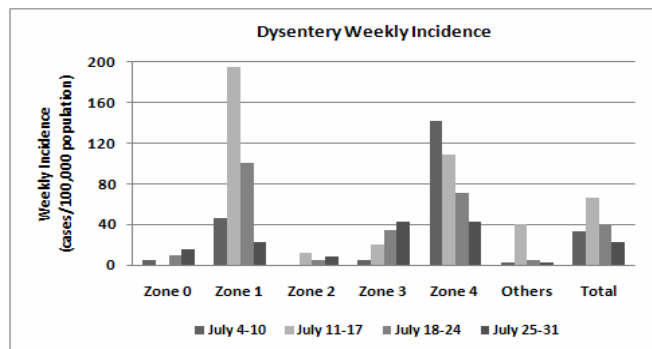
Dysentery

Field notification: During the reporting period (11-31 July 2009), relatively large numbers of dysentery cases were reported from zone 1 (150 cases) and zone 4 (94 cases). As shown in Fig. III, the dysentery incidence rates for the last week of reporting period (July 25-31) in zone 3 (43/100,000) and zone 4 (43/100,000) were more than the average incidence for all IDP sites (23/100,000).

Table 1: Trend of weekly incidence for priority diseases from 01 June to 31 July 2009

Disease	Weekly Incidence/ 100,000 population (June/July 2009)								
	June 1-5	June 6-12	June 13-19	June 20-26	June 27-July 03	July 4-10	July 11-17	July 18-24	July 25-31
Hepatitis A	233	318	233	240	102	94	57	35	30
Chickenpox	149	156	134	158	108	61	80	58	76
Dysentery	363	117	37	85	124	33	66	39	23
Diarrhoea	661	1101	1021	658	413	383	483	374	254

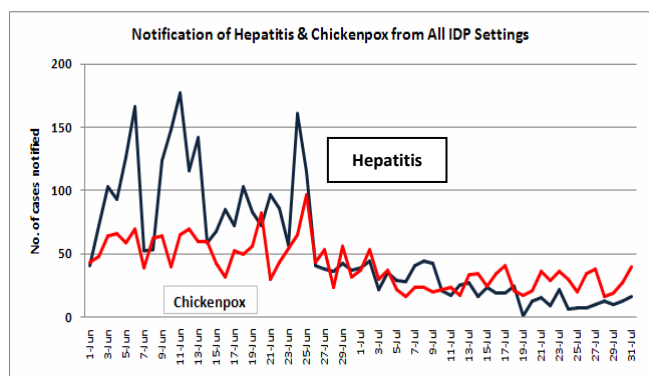
Fig III: Trend of weekly notification of dysentery cases by IDP site



Typhoid fever

Field notification: Since 01 June up to 31 July 2009, 244 cases of enteric fever were notified. The numbers of notifications during the reporting period were: 35 during July 11-17, 30 during July 18-24 and 07 during July 25-31.

Fig IV: Field notification of hepatitis and chickenpox cases 01 June - 31 July 2009

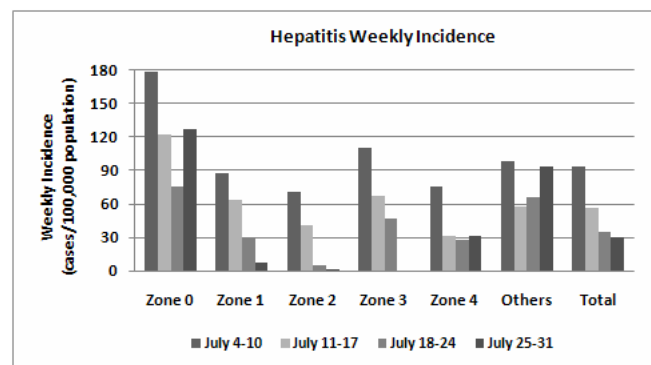


Hepatitis A

Field notification: The number of hepatitis field notifications is gradually coming down (Fig. IV). However, as shown in Fig. V, the incidence of hepatitis during the last week of reporting period (July 25-31) was more than that of previous week (July 18-24) in zone 0, zone 4 and in smaller camps. Further, the incidence rates for the last week of reporting period (July 25-31) in zone 0

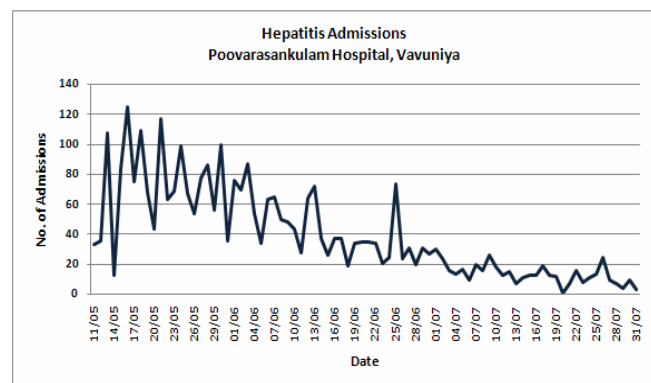
(127/100,000) and smaller camps (93/100,000) were very much higher than the average incidence for all IDP sites (30/100,000).

Fig V: Trend of weekly notification of hepatitis cases by IDP site



Hospital admissions: Since the beginning of isolation at Poovarasankulam Divisional Hospital (i.e. 11 May 2009) up to 31 July 2009, the cumulative total of hepatitis admissions was 3245. Numbers of admission during the reporting period were 91 (July 11-17), 68 (July 18-24) and 73 (July 25-31). Despite a small increase in the last week of reporting period, generally a declining trend in admissions was clearly visible (Fig. VI).

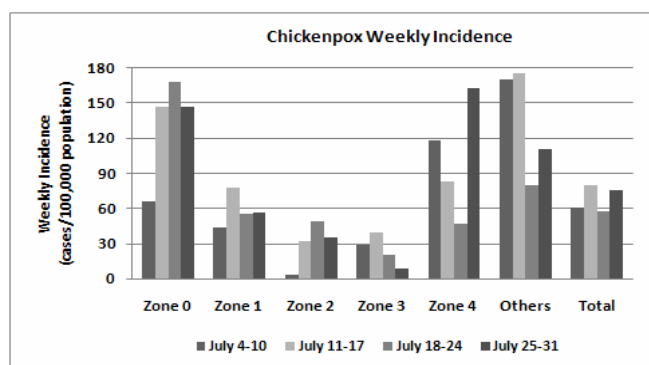
Fig. VI: Trend of hepatitis admissions to the isolation facility from 11 May - 31 July 2009



Chickenpox

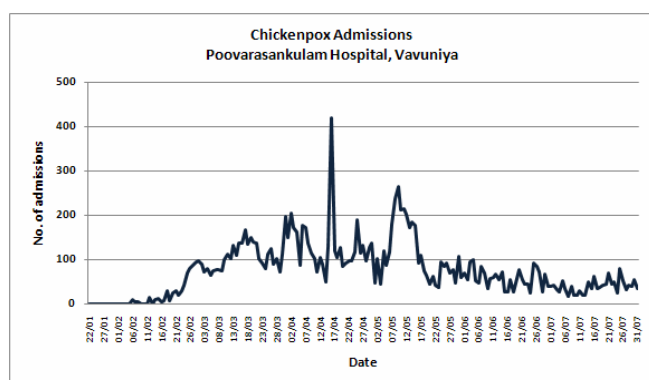
Field notification: The number of notifications was gradually going up lately (Fig. IV). Patients should be detected early and sent to isolation hospital to prevent spread. As shown in the Fig. VII, the incidence of chickenpox for the last reporting week was very much higher in zone 4 (163/100,000), zone 0 (147/100,000) and in smaller camps (111/100,000) compared to the average incidence for all IDP sites (76/100,000).

Fig VII: Trend of weekly notification of chickenpox cases by IDP site



Hospital admissions: Since the beginning of isolation at Poovarasankulam (i.e. 22 January 2009) up to 31 July 2009, the cumulative total of admissions was 14,445. Numbers of admission during the reporting period were 258 (July 11-17), 313 (July 18-24) and 338 (July 25-31). A gradually increasing trend in admissions has been observed (Fig. VIII).

Fig. VIII: Trend of chickenpox admissions to the isolation facility from 22 January - 31 July 2009



Suspected measles cases

Hospital admissions: Since June 27 up to 31 July 2009, 32 suspected cases were admitted to Poovarasankulam Isolation Facility and 01 to Vavuniya General Hospital. For

12 suspected measles cases admitted to Poovarasankulam, viral studies were done at the Medical Research Institute, Colombo (5 were positive for measles, 6 were positive for rubella & the remaining one was negative for both measles & rubella). As per the surveillance case definition, an active surveillance is currently going on for cases with “fever and non-vesicular maculopapular rash”.

Mumps

Since June 25 up to 31 July 2009, 09 mumps cases were admitted to Poovarasankulam Isolation Facility. There is no mumps antigen containing vaccine in the National Immunization Programme resulting in large numbers of susceptible in the population. Further, as the ground situation also facilitates outbreaks, there is likelihood for an outbreak of mumps unless preventive measures are taken.

Meningitis

Since June 19 up to 31 July 2009, Cheddikulam and Vavuniya MOH Offices received 20 notifications of meningitis/ encephalitis/ meningo-encephalitis cases from GH Vavuniya (19) and TH Anuradhapura (01). Notably, all these patients were from IDPs and no cases were reported from the host population. Out of these 20 patients, 08 were residents of zone 2. However, according to the initial investigations, there was no epidemiological link between the reported cases.

Malaria

Field notification: Since 01 June up to 31 July 2009, 245 cases were notified from all IDP sites. Cases notified during the reporting period: July 11-17: 05, July 18-24: 21 (out of which, 13 from zone 4) and July 25-31: 20 (out of which, 15 from zone 2). All these cases were notified on ‘clinical suspicion’ and none were confirmed by microscopic examination of the blood film.

Others

Routine antenatal screening services for syphilis, conducted by the STD/AIDS Control Programme, has been expanded to the antenatal mothers among IDPs also. During the last 6 weeks, a total of 1458 mothers have been screened (i.e. 38% of the estimated number of pregnant mothers).

Annexure: Distribution of notified cases of priority diseases by IDP site (period of analysis July 25 – 31, 2009)

Disease	IDP Site	No. of cases reported during July 25 – 31, 2009	Cumulative total of cases reported during June 01 – July 31, 2009	Blocks (within zones) & smaller camps reported large number of cases
Hepatitis	Zone 0	23	318	Block A
	Zone 1	04	782	-
	Zone 2	01	549	-
	Zone 3	00	861	Data not available
	Zone 4	13	498	-
	Smaller camps/ sites	35	315	Veerapuram & Sumathipuram
	Total	76	3323	
Chickenpox	Zone 0	29	211	Blocks A & D
	Zone 1	27	339	Block T
	Zone 2	23	322	Block 19 & 49
	Zone 3	04	152	Data not available
	Zone 4	69	687	Block A3, B2, B3, C1, C2, D2, F4
	Smaller camps/ sites	42	782	Veerapuram, Sumathipuram & Nelukulam
	Total	194	2493	
Dysentery	Zone 0	03	37	-
	Zone 1	11	261	-
	Zone 2	06	373	Block 49
	Zone 3	19	216	Data not available
	Zone 4	18	1126	Block D3 & D4
	Smaller camps/ sites	01	33	-
	Total	58	2046	
Diarrhoea	Zone 0	57	944	Block F & I
	Zone 1	96	1955	Block L, N, R & S
	Zone 2	191	2603	Block 19, 26, 41 & 49
	Zone 3	89	2850	Data not available
	Zone 4	77	2888	Block A1 & D2
	Smaller camps/ sites	143	2213	Nelukulam & Komarasankulam
	Total	653	13453	

Data sources: Vavuniya & Cheddikulam MOH Offices, RDHS Office Vavuniya, Cheddikulam Coordination Centre, Poovarasankulam Hospital, Vavuniya STD/AIDS Control Programme and District Secretariat, Vavuniya

Compilation and analysis: WHO Field Unit, Vavuniya