



Epidemiology Unit
Ministry of Health

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE WEEKLY UPDATE

Internally Displaced Persons, Vavuniya District

No 4; Week 27 (27 June - 03 July 2009)



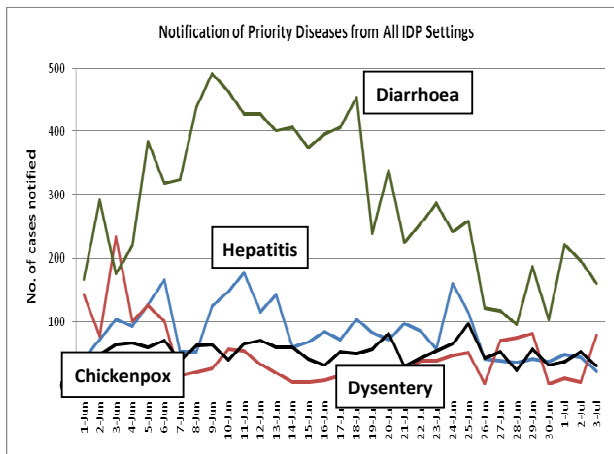
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The total number of IDPs is stabilized and amount to 263,497. Sex distribution is almost equal and the number of families is 85,088. Currently IDPs are housed in 19 sites.

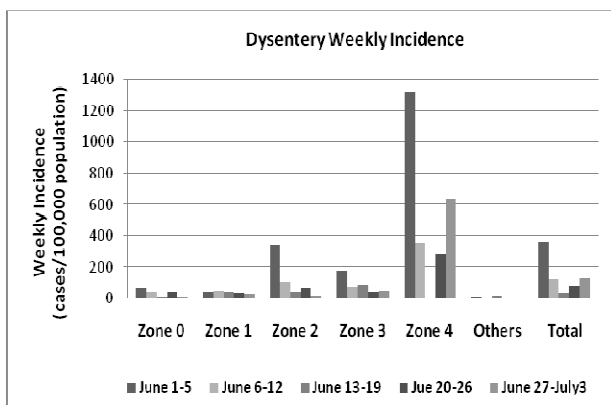
Disease Surveillance

Generally, there is an improvement in the disease surveillance activities at the IDP sites. The following graph shows the trend of notification for diseases with outbreak potential from all IDP sites, since 02 June to 03 July 2009:



Dysentery

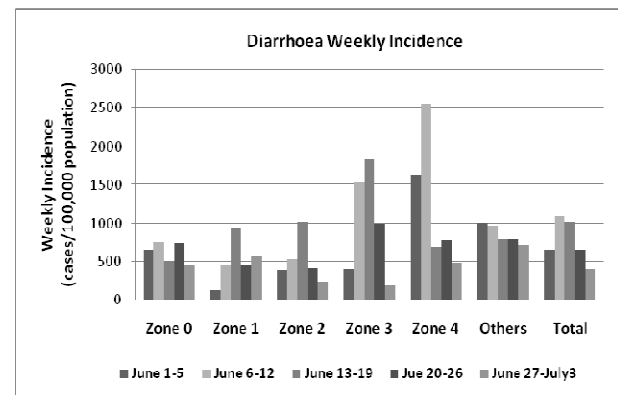
Field notification: Zone 4 reports periodic outbreaks. Due to this, the overall incidence of dysentery for the reporting week was more than that of previous week. Medical officers have been given instructions regarding the choice of antibiotics for treatment. Steps have been taken to strengthen the water quality surveillance.



However, all other IDP sites were showing reduction in the number of dysentery cases.

Diarrhoea

Field notification: As shown in the graph below, incidence is gradually coming down in all IDP sites. However, the incidence (per 100,000) for the reporting week was higher in zone 0 (451), zone 1 (579) and zone 4 (486) than the average incidence for all IDP sites (413). The average incidence for all smaller camps was also much high during the reporting week (728/100,000).



Hepatitis A

Field notification: As shown below, incidence of hepatitis is gradually coming down in all IDP sites. However, incidence for the reporting week was higher in zone 0 (195/100,000), zone 1 (115/100,000) and zone 3 (192/100,000) than the average incidence for all IDP sites (102/100,000).

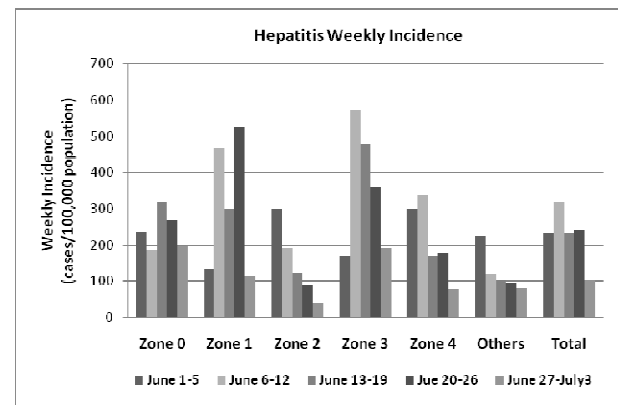


Table 1: Trend of weekly incidence (per 100,000 population) of priority diseases from all IDP sites in Vavuniya District

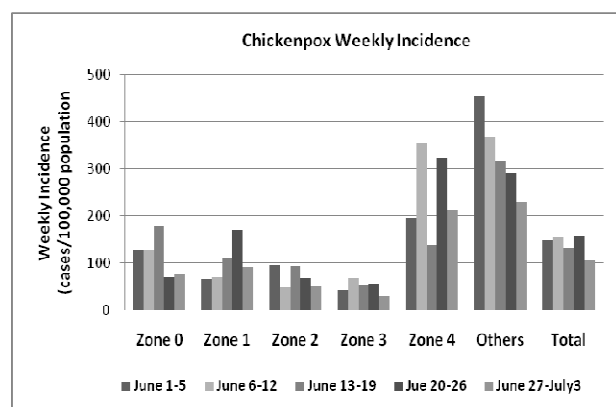
Disease	A	B	Weekly Incidence/ 100,000 population (June/July 2009)				
			June 1-5	June 6-12	June 13-19	June 20-26	June 27-July 3
Hepatitis A	267	2786	233	318	233	240	102
Dysentery	325	1632	363	117	37	85	124
Diarrhoea	1083	9619	661	1101	1021	658	413
Chickenpox	284	1740	149	156	134	158	108

A - No. of cases reported during current week (June 27 - July 03, '09); B - Cumulative total of cases reported to date (June 01 - July 03, '09)

Hospital admissions: From 11 May up to 03 July 2009, cumulative total of hepatitis admissions to the isolation facility at Poovarasankulam was 2892. Despite frequent 'peaks', generally a declining trend in hepatitis admissions has been observed.

Chickenpox

Field notification: As shown in the graph below, incidence of chickenpox is gradually coming down in all IDP sites. However, incidence (per 100,000) for the reporting week was very much higher in zone 4 (215) and in other smaller camps (230) compared to the average incidence for all IDP sites (108).



Hospital admissions: Since the beginning of isolation at Poovarasankulam (i.e. 22 January 2009) up to 03 July 2009, the cumulative total of chickenpox admissions was 13,326. A declining trend in admissions is very much noticeable.

Typhoid fever

Field notification: Since 01 June to 03 July 2009, 146 cases have been notified from all IDP sites. Out of these notifications, 60 cases were from zone 4 and 46 were from zone 1.

Vaccine: As per the guidelines from Epidemiology Unit, most of the health workers and a good proportion of food handlers have been vaccinated during the reporting week.

Malaria

Field notification: Since 01 June to 03 July 2009, 165 cases have been notified from all IDP sites. Out of these notifications, 130 were from zone 1 and 28 cases were from zone 4. The zone 1 cases were diagnosed using rapid test kits. All zone 4 cases were notified on 'clinical suspicion'. However, up to now in 2009 only 03 cases from IDPs have been diagnosed by microscopic examination of the blood film (*Plasmodium vivax*).

Suspected measles cases

Hospital admissions: During the reporting week, 12 cases of suspected measles were admitted to the Poovarasankulam Isolation Facility. Except one, all the cases were from Nelukulam IDP site. Among them 2 were infants and others were older children (> 12 years) and adults. Both infants, aged 8 and 9 months, have not received measles immunization. Verification of diagnosis by MRI is expected shortly. Health workers have been requested to be more vigilant about any possible outbreak of measles.

Screening of antenatal mothers for STD

Since the beginning of 01 June 2009, 996 pregnant mothers (roughly about 25% of the estimated number of pregnant) have been screened for syphilis using VDRL test. There were 6 cases found to be positive on VDRL, however the TPPA test gave negative results to all.

Compiled by the WHO Field Unit, Vavuniya

Data sources: Vavuniya & Cheddikulam MOH Offices, RDHS Office Vavuniya, Cheddikulam Coordination Centre, Poovarasankulam Hospital, Regional Office of Anti-Malaria Campaign, Vavuniya STD/AIDS Control Programme and District Secretariat, Vavuniya