



# COMMUNICABLE DISEASE WEEKLY UPDATE

## Internally Displaced Persons, Vavuniya District

No 10; Week 36 (29 Aug - 04 Sep 2009)

Epidemiology Unit  
Ministry of Health



As of 03 September 2009, the total number of IDPs was 247,804 (No. of families 79,198). About 95% of these IDPs (236,364) were housed in 13 sites in the Cheddikulam MOH area. The remaining 11,440 were in Vavuniya MOH area in 6 centres, including one exclusively for elders. During the reporting week, 2 centres in Cheddikulam MOH area i.e. Aruvithottam & Aandiyar Puliyankulam were closed and the occupants were transferred to the newly opened zone 6.

### Disease Surveillance

Disease surveillance in the zones located in the Cheddikulam MOH area, is coordinated by the Cheddikulam Coordination Centre. However, the flow of disease surveillance data has not been streamlined from the newly opened zones 6 & 7 resulting in irregular reporting. The total number of IDPs in the zones (numbered from 0 to 7) was 217,240 (88% of IDPs). In the remaining IDP sites in Cheddikulam and Vavuniya MOH areas, which are smaller in size (number of residents ranging from 185 to 5476), disease surveillance activities are conducted by the range PHII under the guidance of relevant area MOH.

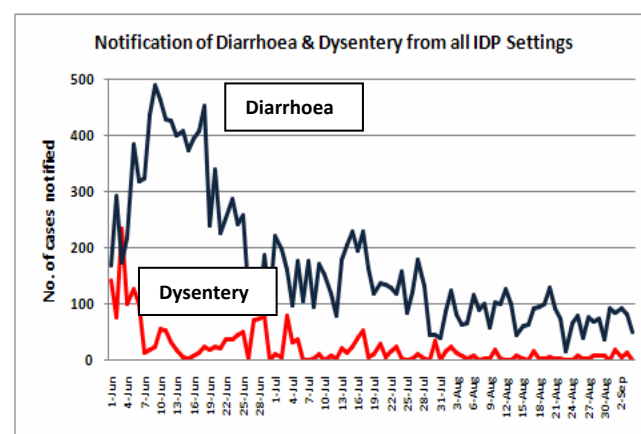
Table 1 shows the trend of weekly incidence for priority diseases based on the notifications received from field hospitals/ mobile health units during the last 08 weeks. For hepatitis and chickenpox, incidence rates for the reporting week (August 29 – September 04) were less than that of previous week. The incidence for hepatitis during the

reporting week was the lowest recorded since the analysis had begun. However, for dysentery and diarrhoea, an increase in the incidence rates was observed during the reporting week.

### Diarrhoea

**Field notification:** During the period of analysis, daily reporting of diarrhoea was in the range of 37 - 94 cases (Fig. I). Zone 2 and 3 reported more than 100 cases of diarrhoea during the reporting week (August 29 - September 04). Since the beginning of analysis (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> week of June 2009), zone 2 has been continuously reporting more than 100 cases every week.

**Fig I: Field notification of diarrhoea and dysentery cases 01 June - 04 September 2009**



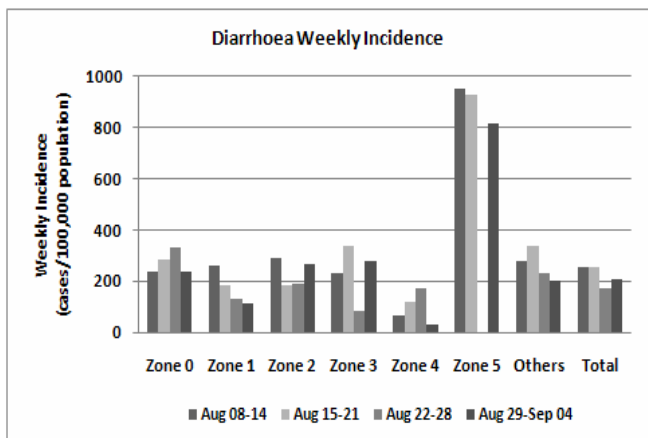
After a marked drop in incidence previous week, again the incidence rate for diarrhoea went above 200/100,000 during the reporting week (Table 1 & Fig. II).

**Table 1: Trend of weekly incidence for priority diseases from 11 July to 04 September 2009**

Disease	Weekly Incidence/ 100,000 population							
	July 11-17	July 18-24	July 25-31	Aug 01-07	Aug 08-14	Aug 15-21	Aug 22-28	Aug 29-Sep 04
Hepatitis A	57	35	30	25	29	19	23	08
Chickenpox	80	58	76	94	95	117	99	75
Dysentery	66	39	23	33	17	16	14	25
Diarrhoea	483	374	254	254	256	257	173	209

The incidence rates of diarrhoea for the reporting week (August 29 - September 04) in zones 5 (818/100,000), 3 (278/100,000), 2 (265/100,000) & zero (240/100,000) were more than the average incidence for all IDP sites (209/100,000). Zone 4 recorded a marked reduction in the incidence (29/100,000) during the same period.

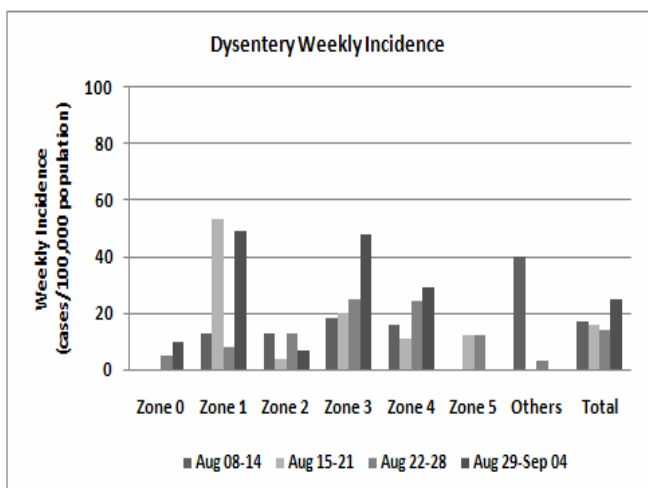
**Fig II: Trend of weekly notification of diarrhoea cases by IDP site**



### Dysentery

**Field notification:** A reversal in the declining trend of dysentery incidence was observed during the reporting week (Fig III). The incidence rates for dysentery in the reporting period (August 29 - September 04) in zone 1 (49/100,000), zone 3 (48/100,000) and zone 4 (29/100,000) were more than the average incidence for all IDP sites (25/100,000). A small outbreak of dysentery was reported from zone 3 on September 01, 2009 (total no. of cases 12).

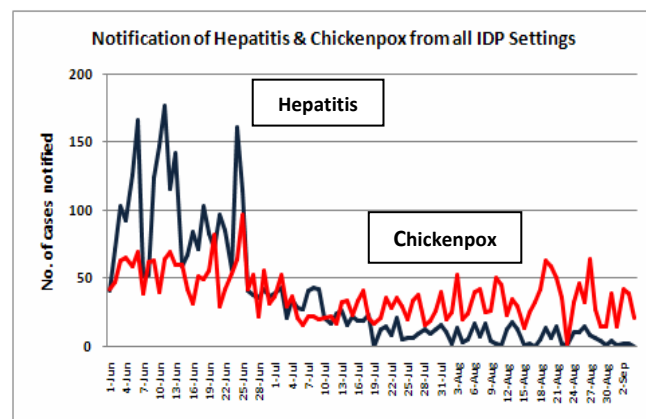
**Fig III: Trend of weekly notification of dysentery cases by IDP site**



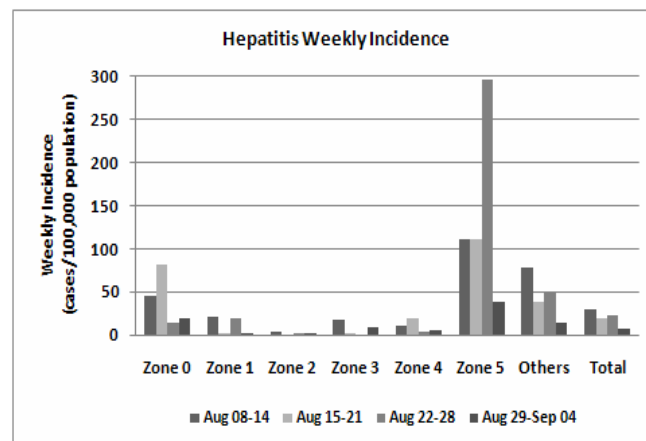
### Hepatitis A

**Field notification:** The outbreak of hepatitis peaked during May and June, 2009 is gradually tapering (Fig. IV). During the reporting week (August 29 - September 04), only 20 cases were notified from IDP sites. However, as shown in Fig. V, incidence rates for the reporting period in zone 5 (38/100,000), zone 0 (20/100,000) and smaller camps (14/100,000) were more than the average incidence rate of hepatitis for all IDP sites (8/100,000).

**Fig IV: Field notification of hepatitis and chickenpox cases 01 June – 04 September 2009**

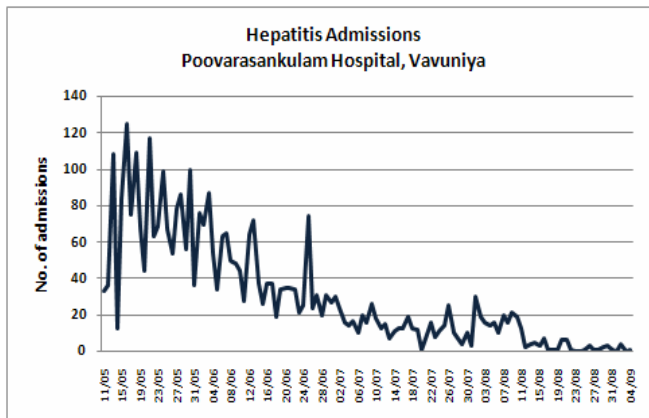


**Fig V: Trend of weekly notification of hepatitis cases by IDP site**



**Hospital admissions:** The declining trend in field notifications was well reflected in the trend of hospital admissions also. Since the beginning of isolation at Poovarasankulam Divisional Hospital (i.e. 11 May 2009) up to 04 September 2009, the cumulative total of hepatitis admissions was 3493. Number of admission during the reporting week (August 29 - September 04) was only 11 (Out of 20 notifications, 11 admitted, admission rate 55%).

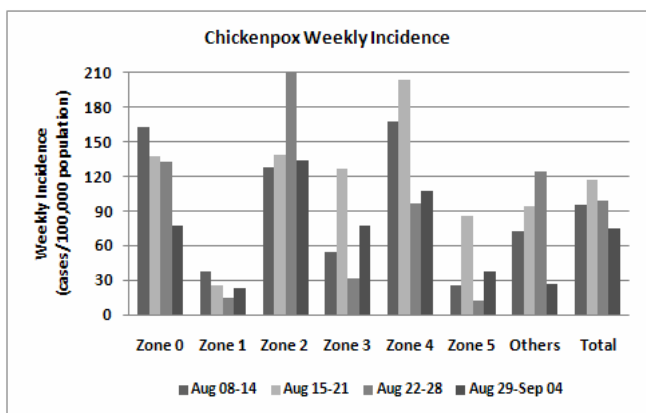
**Fig. VI: Trend of hepatitis admissions to the isolation facility from 11 May – 04 September 2009**



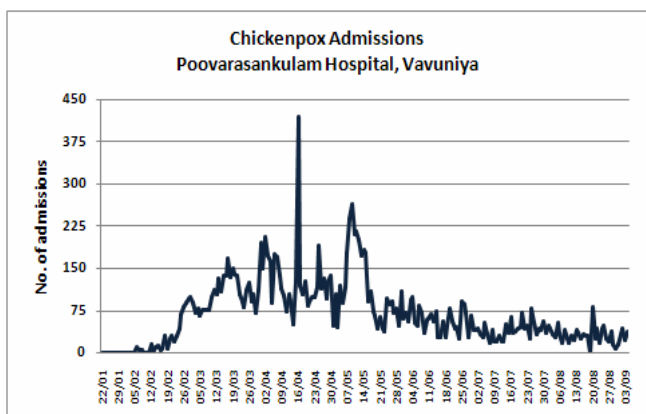
**Chickenpox**

**Field notification:** Despite a general declining trend, small ‘peaks’ were observed in number of field notifications (Fig. IV) during August 29 - September 04. As shown in Fig. VII, incidence of chickenpox in the reporting period was much higher in zone 2 (134/100,000) & zone 4 (107/100,000) than the average incidence for all IDP sites (75/100,000).

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



**Fig. VIII: Trend of chickenpox admissions to the isolation facility from 22 January – 04 September 2009**



**Hospital admissions:** Since the beginning of isolation at Poovarasankulam Divisional Hospital (i.e. 22 January 2009) up to 04 September 2009, the cumulative total of chickenpox admissions was 15,547. The number of admissions during the reporting week (August 29 - September 04) was 176 (Fig. VIII). Almost 95% of the cases (176 out of 186) notified from the field hospitals/mobile clinics were sent to Poovarasankulam Isolation Facility.

**Measles**

**Hospital admissions:** During June 27 - September 04, 2009 65 suspected cases were admitted to Poovarasankulam Isolation Facility. Further, there were 13 notifications from Cheddikulam Base Hospital & 04 from Vavuniya General Hospital. All 05 suspected cases received inward treatment on August 27<sup>th</sup> at Poovarasankulam were confirmed as measles cases by laboratory tests (ELISA – measles specific IgM antibodies) at Medical Research Institute. Out of these cases, 04 were residents of Suduventhapulavu IDP camp and the remaining one was from Komarasankulam. The effect of the recently implemented “child immunization programme” on the number and age distribution of measles cases can be studied in coming weeks.

**Others**

**Malaria:** Since 01 June up to 04 September 2009, 310 cases were notified from IDP sites. The number of notifications during the reporting period was 04 (notified on ‘clinical suspicion’).

**Typhoid fever:** Since 01 June up to 04 September 2009, 378 cases of enteric fever were notified from IDP sites. The number of notifications during the reporting period was 14.

**Sexually transmitted diseases:** During the last 3 months (June - August), 06 internally displaced patients were treated for sexually transmitted diseases. Further, up to August 30, 2009 a total of 2175 antenatal mothers have been screened (i.e. 53% of the estimated number of pregnant mothers) for syphilis by the STD/AIDS Control Programme. Among those screened, 08 reported VDRL positive. However, the confirmative test (TPPA) was negative for all.

Annexure: Distribution of notified cases of priority diseases by IDP site (Period of analysis 29 August - 04 September 2009)

Disease	IDP Site	No. of cases reported during Aug 29 - Sep 04, 2009	Cumulative total of cases reported during June 01 - Sep 04, 2009	Blocks (within zones) & smaller camps reported large number of cases
Hepatitis	Zone 0	04	357	No significant reporting
	Zone 1	01	812	No significant reporting
	Zone 2	01	555	No significant reporting
	Zone 3	04	889	No significant reporting
	Zone 4	02	524	No significant reporting
	Zone 5	03	134	No significant reporting
	Smaller camps/ sites	05	395	Veerapuram
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3666</b>	
Chickenpox	Zone 0	15	339	Widespread reporting
	Zone 1	11	414	Widespread reporting
	Zone 2	73	705	Blocks 4,13,26,28,38,39,43,48
	Zone 3	34	296	Widespread reporting
	Zone 4	40	961	Blocks B5, C2, C3
	Zone 5	03	86	No significant reporting
	Smaller camps/ sites	10	951	Sumathipuram
	<b>Total</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>3752</b>	
Dysentery	Zone 0	02	40	No significant reporting
	Zone 1	23	359	Widespread reporting
	Zone 2	04	412	No significant reporting
	Zone 3	21	268	Widespread reporting
	Zone 4	11	1168	Widespread reporting
	Zone 5	00	05	No significant reporting
	Smaller camps/ sites	00	55	No significant reporting
	<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>2307</b>	
Diarrhoea	Zone 0	47	1205	Widespread reporting
	Zone 1	53	2430	Widespread reporting
	Zone 2	145	3262	Blocks 6,8,9,13,20,24,26,38,43
	Zone 3	123	3328	Blocks 30,31
	Zone 4	11	3088	Blocks D3, D4, D5, D8
	Zone 5	65	570	Widespread reporting
	Smaller camps/ sites	74	2752	Komarasankulam
	<b>Total</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>16635</b>	

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

Compilation and analysis: WHO Field Unit, Vavuniya