

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

Regional Support Unit for South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (RSU-SAARC)

INDIA

16 December 2016: Japanese encephalitis vaccination time period extended in Malkangiri, Odisha

The Malkangiri district administration extended the programme of vaccinating children in the age group of 1 to 15 against Japanese encephalitis (JE) virus till December 24. Earlier, the administration had declared to continue the special vaccination programme, which was launched on December 5 till December 15. As many as 18,027 children aged between 1 and 15 have been identified for vaccination from across the district and around 90% children have been vaccinated against the JE. [read more](#)

18 December 2016: Vaccination drive to check monkey fever in Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra

The state government is launching an immunisation drive against Kyasanur forest disease or monkey fever in the Sindhudurg district. The first case of the fever was reported in this district in the last week of January this year. Since then, the virus has infected 133 people and claimed seven lives. The Viral diagnostic lab in Shimoga, Karnataka, has provided the vaccines to the state. The vaccine schedule stipulates a second dose, one month after the first dose and a booster dose after six months. This is followed by a yearly dose for five years for better protection. The state has planned to vaccinate high-risk individuals, including farmers and forest workers, to prevent the tick-borne viral infection from spreading to other parts of the state. [read more](#)

19 December 2016: 24 rabies cases detected in Mapusa in last 3 months, Goa

Of the 24 rabies cases detected in Bardez in the last three months, nine were detected in Mapusa itself. 2105 stray dogs were vaccinated in the Mapusa town limits, which is less than 70 per cent of the canine population. As per the information provided by a source at the Mission Rabies at Assagao, 90 per cent of the stray dogs in the vicinity of Mapusa market are vaccinated for rabies. The state government has plans to make Goa rabies free, and as such under Mission Rabies it has tied up with a UK-based NGO. The mission has as its centre in Assagao. [read more](#)

NEPAL

19 December 2016: Rabies scare in Orang VDC of Dolakha District

The death of two villagers after showing symptoms of rabies such as hydrophobia and hallucinations in Orang VDC of Dolakha district caused scare in the district. Orang is located nearly 55 km north of Charikot at Nepal-China border. According to a villager both the victims were bitten by stray dogs and died a month ago. He said that nearly two dozen villagers were attacked by stray dogs in the last three months. Around 50 people from Orang VDC then arrived in Charikot, for treatment of rabies. Dr Binod Dhangal at Charikot Hospital said that a woman who had been bitten by a dog three weeks ago was administered rabies vaccine and the other villagers were offered counselling about the disease as vaccinating them would have no effect at this point because they were bitten at least a month ago. [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

20 December 2016: Mysterious disease affects 30,000 people in Karachi

Sindh Health Minister Dr. Sikandar Mandhro on Monday declared emergency in Malir (Karachi) after outbreak of mysterious disease that caught more than 30,000 people in one month. Health minister visited Saudabad hospital and said that blood samples have been dispatched to laboratory in Islamabad. The disease agent has now (21 December 2016) been diagnosed as Chikungunya virus. A joint statement issued by the WHO and the health ministry from Islamabad on 21 December 2016 whereby they denied the detection of the virus similar to dengue and Zika in Pakistan casts a greater shadow of mystery over the ailment that have afflicted thousands of people reporting high fever and severe body aches. [read more](#)

OTHERS

17 December 2016: Rising Prevalence of Zoonotic Diseases and Increased Spending on Companion Animals to Boost Demand for Veterinary Vaccines Market

The global veterinary vaccines market is highly consolidated, with the top five vendors accounting for a share of nearly 65% in the overall market in 2015, reports TMR in a new study. Zoetis, Inc., Merck & Co., and Sanofi Aventis, the top three companies in the market collectively held a share of more than 45% of the overall market in the same year. [read more](#)

20 December 2016: Chikungunya vaccine: These 5 lethal viruses are still deadly and incurable

Scientists have developed a vaccine against the viral, vector-borne disease, Chikungunya. It is thought the first outbreak of the disease was in 1779 and it was documented for the first time in 1955. Though a vaccine against the virus is finally here, there are various other extremely lethal viruses that are still untreatable. Among those include Ebola, HIV, Polio, Rabies and Marburg virus disease. [read more](#)