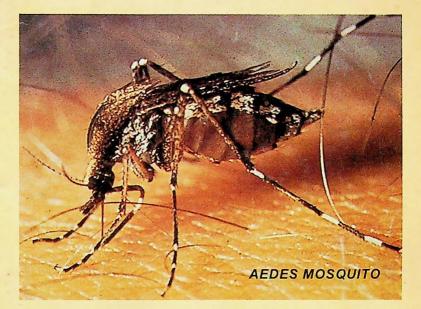
DENGUE - PREVENTION AND CONTROL



INDIAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Courtesy:

WHAT IS DENGUE?

- * Dengue is a serious viral disease transmitted by the bite of the mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*.
- * Dengue occurs in two forms : dengue fever and dengue haemorrhagic fever.
- * Dengue fever is a severe, flu-like illness that affects older children and adults but rarely causes death.
- * Dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF) is a more severe form, in which bleeding and occasionally shock occur, leading to death; it is most serious in children.
- * Persons suspected of having dengue fever or DHF must see a doctor at once. Dengue haemorrhagic fever is a deadly disease and early diagnosis and treatment can save lives. Unless proper treatment is given promptly, the patient may go into shock and die. All Patients with fever and bleeding should be hospitalised.
- * The symptoms of dengue fever vary according to the age and general health of the patient. Infants and young children may have a fever with a measles-like rash, which is difficult to distinguish from influenza, measles, malaria, viral hepatitis and other diseases with fever. Children and adults may have similar symptoms ranging from mild illness to very severe disease.

WHY IS DENGUE IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Dengue fever and, in particular life-threatening DHF, often occur in massive epidemics. Dengue spreads rapidly affecting a great many people during an epidemic, most importantly causing the loss of lives. Dengue, like the mosquito that carries it, is found throughout tropical regions of the world. It is reported from over 100 countries, with approximately 2000 million people at risk. It affects young and old, rich and poor alike, especially those living in densely crowded urban areas throughout the tropics.

SYMPTOMS OF DENGUE FEVER:

- * Abrupt onset of high fever.
- * Severe frontal headache.
- * Pain behind the eyes which worsens with eye movement.
- * Muscle and joint pains.
- * Loss of sense of taste and appetite.
- * Measles-like rash over chest and upper limbs.
- * Nausea and vomiting.

SYMPTOMS OF DENGUE HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER AND SHOCK:

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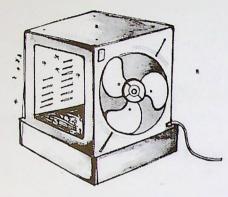
- * Symptoms similar to dengue fever.
- * Severe and continous stomach pains.
- * Pale, cold or clammy skin.
- * Bleeding from the nose, mouth and gums and skin bruising.
- * Frequent vomiting with or without blood.
- * Sleeping and restlessness.
- * Constant crying.
- * Excessive thirst (dry mouth)
- * Rapid weak pulse.
- * Difficulty in breathing.

TREATMENT OF DENGUE & DHF

Up to 20% of people with severe dengue or DHF may die if not properly diagnosed and treated. However, with early detection and proper case management, mortality can be reduced substantially.

AVOID SELF MEDICATION : DO NOT TAKE ASPIRIN

AEDES MOSQUITO:..... PREFERRED BREEDING PLACES



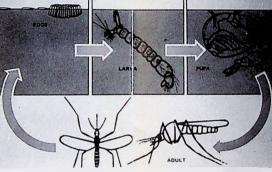
AIR COOLER



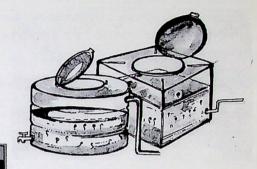
FLOWERPOT VASE

12





LIFE - CYCLE



OVERHEAD TANKS



HOW IS DENGUE SPREAD?

Dengue is spread by the bite of an infected female *Aedes aegypti* mosquito which has got the dengue virus by taking a blood meal from a person who was ill with dengue. The infected mosquito then transmits the disease through its bite to other people who in turn becomes ill, and the chain continues.

WHERE DOES THE DENGUE MOSQUITO BREED?

Dengue mosquito breeds in any water-catching or storage containers in shaded or sunny places. Favoured breeding places are:

Desert-coolers, drums, jars, pots, buckets, flower vases, plant saucers, tanks, cisterns, bottles, tins, tyres, roof gutters, refrigerator drip pans, catch basins, drains, soak-away pits, cement blocks, cemetery urns, bamboo stumps, tree cavities and a lot more places where rain water collects or is stored.

HOW CAN DENGUE BE PREVENTED: DO'S & DON'TS

The following control measures which are recommended by WHO/NICD may be taken to prevent Dengue:

A. Elimination of mosquito breeding places:

- * Do not allow water stagnations in coolers, discarded tyres, containers, drums, flower pot vases, ornamental tanks in and around the houses.
- * Ensure overhead water tanks are covered.
- * Empty all water collections/ containers, cisterns, storage tanks once a week (Dry Day) in your house and locality through Residents Welfare Associations.

B. Personal Protection:

- * Avoid mosquito bites by use of Mosquito Nets & Repellants.
- * Do not wear clothes that expose arms and legs.
- * Children should not be allowed to play in shorts and half sleeved clothes.

C. Larvicides:

Use of Larvicides like ABATE (Temephos) on a weekly basis in all stagnant water collections in and around the houses to prevent Mosquito breeding.

D. Adulticides:

Adulticidal treatments should be made at 7-10 days intervals to kill active flying adult mosquitoes using Malathion Technical

E. Priority Areas for Vector Control:

Priority Areas for Vector Control are those with high mosquito density or concentration of fever cases like hospitals, schools, industrial towns & townships, housing societies, etc.

7

WHY DENGUE EPIDEMICS ARE INCREASING?

- * Increasing urban populations
- * Expanding mosquito breeding due to:
 - Unreliable water supply;
 - Traditional water storage practices;
 - Poor sanitation (create more mosquito breeding places);
 - Changing lifestyles.
- * Rapid transportation
 - Movement of infected humans;
 - Spread of Aedes mosquitoes.
- * Inadequate community awareness about Dengue and its prevention.
- * Lack of community participation in preventing mosquito breeding.
- * Insufficient Mosquito Control Programmes.

INDIAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

For further information contact:

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Courtesy:

