

**To evaluate the effectiveness of the Japanese Encephalitis immunization programme.
MD (Community Medicine) - 2006**

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The study revealed that a total of 123 patients with suspected viral encephalitis, viral meningitis and meningo encephalitis were admitted during the study period. Of these 35 patients had died during the acute illness, giving an average case fatality rate of 28.4 percent. Peak admissions were in December 2002 and January 2003. Both children and adults were affected and male to female ratio was 2: 1. The case fatality rate was not significantly different between males and females, whereas the case fatality rate of patients over 50 years was significantly different compared to other age categories ($\chi^2 = df-1$ $p < 0.05$). Japanese encephalitis (JE) was confirmed in 19.5 percent patients on the basis of the laboratory findings (identification of JE specific IgM antibodies in cerebro spinal fluid (CSF) sample). 78.8 percent of patients were diagnosed as encephalitis, 14.1 percent were diagnosed as meningitis and the remaining 7.1 percent were diagnosed as meningo encephalitis of the 123 patients, BHTs of 85 patients (72.9 percent) had change in level of consciousness during the acute illness. Neck stiffness was present in 44 patients (51.8 percent), convulsions in 25 patients (29.4 percent), abnormal behavior in 22 patients (25.9 percent), neurological signs in 19 patients (22.4 percent) and abnormal movements in 2 patients (2.3 percent). The age appropriate immunization coverage was 75.4 percent (95 percent CI 73.0-77.8) for the 3rd dose and 55.6 percent (95 percent CI 51.4-57.8) for the 4th dose and 55.6 percent (95 percent CI 51.4-57.8) for the fourth dose. No patients received JE vaccine.