

WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORT

A publication of the Epidemiology Unit Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine

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Flashback 2021 Part II

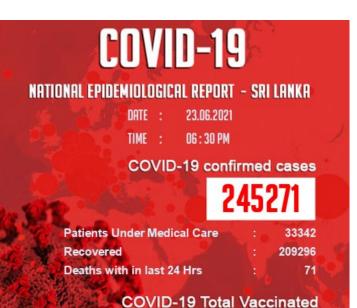
This is the last article of the series of two articles

grated to capture the number of patients and the deaths daily.

Disease surveillance

The disease surveillance activities related to Covid-19 were further strengthened in the year 2021. The members of the contact tracing team of the Epidemiology Unit have further increased. Initially, Sri Lanka adopted the practice of admitting all the Covid-19 positively identified patients to the dedicat-

ed hospitals. This helps to provide specific treatment facilities to Covid-19 patients which kept the mortality rate low and additionally, it prevents the spread of the disease by taking him out of his society. But when the number of patients increased, the Covid-19 dedicated hospitals ran out of space and a new concept called intermediate centres was established. In the latter half of the year, the home-based care practice was introduced. At all levels, the surveillance system was inteSurveillance data were useful in risk communication to the public to understand the situation of the country and to sustain trust in the government's response to COVID-19. Surveillance information has also been the basis to advocate for an appropriate and proportionate response to the risk imposed by the disease minimizing negative economic and societal impacts.



1st Dose

2nd Dose

2487297

857868



Epidemiology Unit

Ministry of Health



Daily COVID-19 status update available at Influenza 2021 www.epid.gov.lk

National Immunization Programme

National Immunization Programme (NIP) is one of the major responsibilities of the Epidemiology Unit. Currently, NIP protects the nation from 12 dreadful communicable diseases and 2 non-communicable diseases.

Age-appropriate vaccination is available and accessible to all eligible children in the country and services are provided by well-trained MOH staff. The services are provided at the MOH office and fixed field vaccination clinics as well as at the school vaccination sessions.

The programme was standstill during the initial lockdown period due to COVID-19 in the country. However, soon after that, the programme was re-started, and age-appropriate vaccination was gradually regained. This was guided and supervised by the Epidemiology Unit and further supplemented with a circular issued by the Ministry of Health. All the Covid-19 prevention practices strictly adhere in the immunization clinics.

Regular monitoring of the programme is carried out at the district and central levels and necessary feedback and guidance are provided to the field staff. Further, subnational, and national EPI/VPD reviews are conducted annually to review and improve the programme.

Leptospirosis

A total of 6928 cases of leptospirosis were notified to the Epidemiology Unit in the year 2021. The highest caseload was reported from Rathnapura, Galle, Kalutara and Kegalle districts. The Case Fatality Rate was 1.2 per 100 cases. Throughout the past years, the case incidence rate has been fluctuating with a lower number of cases being reported in 2021 than in 2020. Reporting of Leptospirosis cases has shown an annual seasonal pattern with peaks during rainy seasons of two monsoons in the country.

There are 19 sentinel sites to carry out influenza surveil-lance throughout the country. Out of 611,801 total OPD visits, 24,534 Influenza-like Illness (ILI) cases have been reported to the National Influenza Surveillance System in the year 2021. It represents 4.01% of total OPD visits to the sentinel sites. In the year 2021, there were 3432 Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI) cases in SARI sentinel sites out of 18,610 (18.44%) inward patients. The usual seasonal pattern of influenza was not observed during the year 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation in the country. The main circulating viruses were Influenza A (H3, H1) and B viruses in the year 2021. There were no influenza deaths reported during the year 2021.



Daily Situation Report available at www.epid.gov.lk

Compiled by

The Editor

Table 1: Selected notifiable diseases reported by Medical Officers of Health 01st - 07th Jan 2022 (01st Week) ڈ ဖ $^{\circ}$ Ω \sim $^{\circ}$ \sim ⋖ Ω ~ \vdash -⋖ \leftarrow Ω ⋖ Ы Ω ⋖ \vdash \sim \vdash \vdash ∞ Ω Ξ ဖ \sim ∞ ဖ $^{\circ}$ ⋖ \sim _ \sim \sim $^{\circ}$ _ Ω \vdash ⋖ \sim ന $^{\circ}$ ∞ ∞ $^{\circ}$

Table 2: Vaccine-Preventable Diseases & AFP

01st - 07th Jan 2022 (01st Week)

Disease	No. of Cases by Province									Number of cases during current	Number of cases during same	Total number of cases to date in	Total num- ber of cases to date in	Difference between the number of cases to date
	w	С	s	N	Е	NW	NC	U	Sab	week in 2022	week in 2021	2022	2021	in 2022 & 2021
AFP*	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	01	01	01	0%
Diphtheria	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	0 %
Mumps	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	0 %
Measles	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	0 %
Rubella	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	0 %
CRS**	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	0 %
Tetanus	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	0 %
Neonatal Tetanus	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	0 %
Japanese Encephalitis	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	01	00	02	00	02	00	0 %
Whooping Cough	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	0 %
Tuberculosis	53	04	09	09	06	06	00	13	16	116	75	116	75	- 35.3 %

Key to Table 1 & 2

Provinces: W: Western, C: Central, S: Southern, N: North, E: East, NC: North Central, NW: North Western, U: Uva, Sab: Sabaragamuwa.

RDHS Divisions: CB: Colombo, GM: Gampaha, KL: Kalutara, KD: Kandy, ML: Matale, NE: Nuwara Eliya, GL: Galle, HB: Hambantota, MT: Matara, JF: Jaffna,

KN: Killinochchi, MN: Mannar, VA: Vavuniya, MU: Mullaitivu, BT: Batticaloa, AM: Ampara, TR: Trincomalee, KM: Kalmunai, KR: Kurunegala, PU: Puttalam,

AP: Anuradhapura, PO: Polonnaruwa, BD: Badulla, MO: Moneragala, RP: Ratnapura, KG: Kegalle.

Data Sources:

Weekly Return of Communicable Diseases: Diphtheria, Measles, Tetanus, Neonatal Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Chickenpox, Meningitis, Mumps., Rubella, CRS,

Special Surveillance: AFP* (Acute Flaccid Paralysis), Japanese Encephalitis

CRS** =Congenital Rubella Syndrome

NA = Not Available

Covid-19 Prevention & Control

For everyone's health & safety, maintain physical distance, often wash hands, wear a face mask and stay home.

Comments and contributions for publication in the WER Sri Lanka are welcome. However, the editor reserves the right to accept or reject items for publication. All correspondence should be mailed to The Editor, WER Sri Lanka, Epidemiological Unit, P.O. Box 1567, Colombo or sent by E-mail to chepid@sltnet.lk. Prior approval should be obtained from the Epidemiology Unit before publishing data in this publication

ON STATE SERVICE

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