Chikungunya Fever

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**INTRODUCTION**

Chikungunya now-a-days is one of the major health problems in India and other neighbouring countries.

**DEFINITION**

CHIKUNGUNYA FEVER is a vector borne viral disease transmitted to humans by the bite of infected Aedes, Culex mosquitoes including the day biting Aedes Aegypti and Aedes Albopictus species.

**MODE OF TRANSMISSION**

Through infected mosquito bite.

**INCUBATION PERIOD**

2-3 days with a range of 1-12 days.

**CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS**

- Fever
- Severe arthralgia with chills
- Headache
- Photophobia
- Anorexia
- Nausea, Vomiting
- Abdominal pain
- Migratory polyarthritis mainly affects small joints of hands, wrist, ankle and feet, lesser involvement in larger joints.

Maculopapular rashes usually seen in trunk and limbs.
- Petechiae are occasionally seen.

**DIAGNOSTIC EVALUATION**

- Increased AST (Aspartate aminotransferase)
- Increased C-reactive protein
- Mild thrombocytopenia
- IGM capture ELISA

**TREATMENT**

There is no specific treatment for Chikungunya Fever

- Bed rest
- Fluids IV and oral
- Non Steroidal anti inflammatory drugs

**PREVENTIVE MEASURES**

- There is no vaccine for Chikungunya fever
- According to WHO the main preventive measure is to stop proliferation of mosquitoes by reducing their breeding grounds.
- Wearing long sleeved shirts and long pants that cover most of the skin.
- Using mosquito nets.
- Staying in screened indoors.
- Insect repellent containing upto 50% DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide) can be used.
- Picardin repellant can be used and is available only in U.S. in low concentration of 7%
- As there is a risk of mother to child transmission pregnant woman should take special precaution.
- Spraying the cloth with permethrin repellent for greater protection.
- Pots, containers, drums used for storing water should be covered properly.
- Over head tanks should be cleaned regularly to prevent breeding of mosquitoes.
- Use boiled water for drinking.
- Spraying of DDT to control mosquitoes.
- Fogging.

**REFERENCES**


**INTERNET RESOURCES**

1. www.mauritius.maurisun.com
2. www.japi.org
3. www.google.com
4. www.the hindu.com
5. www.pubmed.com
6. www.cdc.gov
7. www.hpa.org.uk
8. news.webindia123.com
9. indiainews.com

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**Admission to Nursing Schools/ Colleges**

Candidates seeking admission to any Nursing School/College for obtaining the training through regular / distance mode should verify the recognition status from the State Nursing Council and the Indian Nursing Council before applying for admission.

Mrs. Sheila Seda
Secretary General, TNAI

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**Kind Attention: Members of Executive Committee/Council TNAI**

In view of the postponement of Pre-Conference meetings and SNA Biennial Conference to be held at Surat, Gujarat, kindly note that a meeting of the Executive Committee/Council Meeting, will now be held at TNAI Headquarters, New Delhi on November 14-15, 2006.

You are requested to attend the meeting.

(Mrs.) Sheila Seda
Secretary-General