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EVALUATION OF SYSTEM FOR SURVEILLANCE OF DENGUE IN HOOGHLY DISTRICT OF WEST BENGAL – INDIA

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Abstract

Background: A surveillance system is usually established as an integral part of a health care system in order to monitor priority health events. Evaluation is an important part of communicable disease surveillance. Systematic and objective evaluation of surveillance determines the relevance, effectiveness and impact of such systems. Present study aimed to assess the structure and performance of IDSP with reference to surveillance of Dengue in Hooghly district of West Bengal, India.

Objectives: Objectives of the study was to describe the structure of IDSP in Hooghly district specific to surveillance of Dengue and to evaluate Simplicity, Flexibility, Acceptability, Representativeness, Sensitivity, Positive Predictive Value and Timeliness of system for surveillance of Dengue. **Material and Methods:** A cross sectional study was conducted in Hooghly district of West Bengal to study the dengue surveillance system. Data was collected by interview using a pretested semi structured questionnaire. A total of 104 health workers, 23 medical officers, and district level officers were interviewed. Data was also collected from the records at each level by using an abstraction form.

Results: 95% of health workers and 98.1% of medical officers reported the system as simple to understand and work. 88.7% of health assistants and 80% medical officers were willing to report additional details if and when required by the higher authorities. 94.4% health assistants and 100% medical officers find the existing system acceptable. Sensitivity and Positive Predictive Value of the surveillance system was 66.6% and 14.8% respectively. Information reported by system was representative of population under surveillance and more than 95% of the reporting units reported on time. **Conclusion:** The dengue surveillance system was simple to administer, acceptable to all health personnel, and flexible to include additional details. The current system was representative of the rural areas with timely transmission of reports across at all levels.

Key words: Evaluation, IDSP, Positive Predictive Value, Surveillance System, Sensitivity, Timeliness, Hooghly, West Bengal

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