

Clinical Profile of AES outbreak in Bihar, India

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Patna Medical College and Hospital is an apex medical institute of this region covering whole of Bihar and adjoining areas. It was founded in 1925 in Patna (the capital of Bihar) and was earlier known as Prince of Wales Medical College. It was one of the oldest medical colleges in undivided India. In last few years, cases of AES have increased markedly in this region. Clinically, a case of acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) is defined as a person of any age, at any time of year with the acute onset of fever and a change in mental status (including symptoms such as confusion, disorientation, coma, or inability to talk) and/or new onset of seizures (excluding simple febrile seizures). Last year during peak 5 months period (May to October), 467 patients of AES were admitted with complaints of fever, convulsion, and altered sensorium developing within short time, in which 165 cases were of below 5 yrs of age. There was no sex and locality predilection. The progression of AES was so rapid that, in spite of all proper management, many of them (about 30%) could not be revived and subsequently succumbed to their illness; moreover, the recovered children had residual behavioural and neurological deficits such as mental retardation, seizures, involuntary movements, abnormal posturing etc. Among them 4% were JE positive belonging to different regions and all of them survived, majority of them with sequelae. Considering the miserable effects of AES, we are employing all possible preventive measures such as, increasing community awareness, JE vaccination and vector control.

Biography

Nigam Prakash Narain has completed his M.D. in Pediatrics in 1979 at the age of 29 years from Ranchi University, India and postdoctoral Ph.D. from Patna University, India in 1987. Dr. Narain completed his M.R.C.P from UK after training in Pediatrics & Neonatology in Middlesbrough, UK. He was awarded Fellowship of Indian Academy of Pediatrics in 2003 and Fellowship of National Neonatology Forum of India in 2009 for his contribution in the field of Pediatrics & Neonatology. He has published more than 20 papers in reputed journals and is serving Patna Medical College as an Associate Professor of Pediatrics and in-charge of Pediatric intensive care unit.

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