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An overview of chikungunya in Pakistan

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Chikungunya is a viral disease which can infect human by bite of infected mosquitoes. This disease was initially reported in Tanzania. The symptoms of chikungunya are joint pain and fever. In Pakistan, cases were reported from different areas especially from Karachi. Many other cases of chikungunya were reported from Rawalpindi and Islamabad. Chikungunya cases were recorded from published data from Dec 2016 to September 2018 in different geographic regions of Pakistan. Chikungunya cases are being reported from many areas of Pakistan, but it is most common in Sindh. A total of 766 cases of chikungunya have been reported from all over Pakistan from Dec 2016 to September 2018. The prevalence of disease varied in different areas of Pakistan: FATA is 0%, Islamabad 4%, GB 0%, AJK 0%, Punjab 8%, Sindh 62%, KPK 22% and Baluchistan 4%. Mosquito breeding sites to human tenancy cause significant risk factor for dengue fever and chikungunya. There is no comprehensive treatment available of chikungunya in Pakistan. Generally speaking, antiviral drugs are administered during viral attack, but there is no antiviral drug for this dangerous disease. The WHO responds to chikungunya by providing guidance, technical support to many underdeveloped countries so they can effectively manage cases of chikungunya.

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