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Spot report : Leptospirosis cases in The Philippines flooding

Background



People wade in floodwaters



Extra ward in The NKTI

The monsoon rains has brought the Manila to a standstill since June 30, 2018. Some areas in waist-deep floodwaters made the street impassible. Thousands of affected people across coastal and mountainous northern regions fled to emergency shelters. Many people Wading in floodwaters for several hours led them to the leptospirosis. Some of them do not wear booties and had to wade through the floodwaters that rose quickly after a heavy downpour. Over the last few weeks, health officials have seen a clustering of leptospirosis cases because of the severe flooding brought about by heavy rains and the first half of the year, 1,030 cases of leptospirosis have been reported nationwide, with 99 deaths from the water-borne disease. In July,2018 has recorded a total of 84 cases, with 12 deaths.

Actions Taken

Department of Health (DOH) is monitoring incidents of leptospirosis, in case of the higher number of patients the outbreak will be declared. General hospitals have prepared for taking care of patients, and stocked antibiotics . In addition The National Kidney Transplant Institute has “fast lanes” and five available dialysis machines for leptospirosis patients. A wide range of symptoms could occur such as, meningitis, liver failure, respiratory distress, and even death. Humans got infected through direct contact with the urine of infected animals or contaminated environment especially through wounded skin, or mucous

membranes of the mouth, nose and eyes. Using a rubber boots when wading in floodwaters, clean skin and all mucous membranes immediately is recommended .

ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS -

Severity ranking of the concerns effect in the ASEAN region.

Section	Ranking	Issues identified	Recommendations
<i>Leptospirosis cases in The Philippines flooding.</i>	G	Heavy rain in Philippines with floods cause many people wade floodwater. The assessment of this situation is green.	AMS is monitoring situation continuously.

Remarks:

R: Severe Situation: Urgent intervention required.

Y: Situation of concern: Surveillance or assistance may or may not require, intensive monitoring

G: Relative normal situation or local Government can cope with the crisis, monitoring and no action required.

NA: Lack of /unreliable data: Further assessment required.

ACMM Recommendations,

The monsoon season in The Philippines has started and the flooding has taken in many areas. Affected people wade in floodwater for several hours led to the leptospirosis. During this period, the ACMM is monitoring the situation for providing medical information update to member countries.

References:

1. <http://cnnphilippines.com>
2. <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net>
3. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk>
4. <http://www.who.int>
5. <https://www.cdc.gov>