

The city is in the grip of an Adenovirus outbreak

Description

KARACHI:

The scenic city of Karachi is grappling with a rampant proliferation of Adenovirus (ADV), a virulent affliction that health professionals suggest has been exacerbated by climate change and environmental pollution. This unsettling scale of the outbreak has ignited profound concern amongst both the public and the health departments.

A dramatic upsurge has been observed in cases of patients afflicted with ADV, boosting hospital visits significantly. Presenting myriad symptoms such as headache, chills, cough, cold, and fever, the disease has proven to be highly impactful. Concurrently, incidences of diarrhoea have swelled, adding to the complexity of the situation.

As per medical practitioners, government hospitals are witnessing an influx of over a thousand patients grappling with an array of these symptoms on a daily basis. Dr. Ruth KM Pfau Civil Hospital reported a startling number of 782 cases of ADV and acute respiratory tract infection on a singular Saturday, while Monday saw an astounding figure of 1,275 reported instances.

According to Assistant Medical Superintendent Civil Hospital, Dr Harish Kumar, the escalation of cold, cough, and fever cases has been particularly prominent in the preceding 15 to 20 days. Their course of action involves proactively treating patients presenting with fever and sore throat through dispensing antipyretics, antibiotics, and cough medicines. He further noted that the frigid night and evenings coupled with blistering afternoons, climate change, and environmental pollution expedite the proliferation of these cases.

The majority of the patients predominantly complain about symptoms including headaches, nasal congestion, fever, and chills. It is noteworthy that their blood pressure remains within the normal parameters. The duration of the fever extends approximately up to a week. Substantial precautionary measures are particularly essential for vulnerable populations such as children and the elderly. Dr. Kumar also recommends citizens to take preventive measures such as the consumption of boiled water, avoiding junk food, and diligently wearing masks.

Similarly, Civil Hospital Chief Medical Officer, Dr Abdul Latif Shaikh, elucidated that 90 per cent of reported cases are viral infections, while bacterial infections are sparse.

Shedding light on a complementary issue, Dr. Imran, the emergency in-charge of the Civil Hospital, indicated that diarrhoea cases have witnessed an upswing. In contrast to previous rates of 4-6 cases, the hospital is now navigating a challenging scenario of diagnosing 10-12 daily instances of diarrhoea.

He further underscored the contamination of water as the prime cause of the rising diarrhoea cases, which has a deleterious impact on the patients' kidneys. However, the adherence to consuming boiled water among patients remains disappointingly low.

Dr Faisal Javed, a peerless General Physician of Jinah Hospital Karachi, aptly reminded individuals that while the outbreak is unprecedented, this virus itself is not novel. He asserted that inoculation through vaccines offers a reliable path of prevention. Asthma and diabetes patients need to exercise even more caution, given their vulnerability to viral infections. He concluded by urging citizens not to succumb to panic, but to adopt precautionary measures such as maintaining social distance and wearing masks.

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Vocabulary List:

1. **Proliferation** // (noun): Rapid increase in numbers or spread
2. **Affliction** // (noun): State of pain, distress, or grief; something that causes suffering
3. **Exacerbated** // (verb): Make (a problem or situation) worse
4. **Concurrently** // (adverb): At the same time; simultaneously
5. **Influx** // (noun): Arrival or entry of large numbers of people or things



6. **Antipyretics** // (noun): Medications used to reduce fever

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. Which term refers to the rapid increase or spread of something?
Option: A) Proximate
Option: B) Affliction
Option: C) Proliferation
Option: D) Devastating
2. What are medications used to lower a fever called?
Option: A) Antipyretics
Option: B) Exacerbated
Option: C) Meningitis
Option: D) Polygenic
3. Which field of science involves the study of genes and their functions?
Option: A) Proximate
Option: B) Genomics
Option: C) Prescriptions
Option: D) Infamous
4. Which term means possibly or potentially?
Option: A) Conceivably
Option: B) Influx
Option: C) Coined
Option: D) Haemorrhage
5. What type of trait is influenced by multiple genes?
Option: A) Malicious
Option: B) Polygenic
Option: C) Validity
Option: D) Devastating
6. Which term means to spread or disperse something widely?



- Option: A) Disseminate
- Option: B) Anticipatory
- Option: C) Malicious
- Option: D) Comprehensive

7. What is a developing human or animal called in the early stages of growth?

- Option: A) Infamous
- Option: B) Embryo
- Option: C) Interaction
- Option: D) Malicious

8. Which term refers to a sudden arrival or increase of something?

- Option: A) Devastating
- Option: B) Meningitis
- Option: C) Influx
- Option: D) Prophylactic

9. Which term indicates a desire to harm others or see them suffer?

- Option: A) Anticipatory
- Option: B) Malicious
- Option: C) Gamut
- Option: D) Haemorrhage

10. Which term means necessary and important as a part of the whole?

- Option: A) Convulated
- Option: B) Integral
- Option: C) Validity
- Option: D) Meningitis

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The lack of rain _____ the drought situation in the region.

12. After the doctor's diagnosis he wrote several _____ for the patient.

13. The accident victim suffered severe internal _____ and required immediate medical attention.

14. The textbook provided a _____ overview of the history of ancient civilizations.

15. The doctor advised taking a _____ medication before traveling to the malaria-prone



region.

16. The criminal became _____ for his notorious acts in the city.
17. The earthquake had a _____ impact on the entire community.
18. He spread _____ rumors about his colleague to tarnish her reputation.
19. The legal document was so _____ that it took hours to decipher its meaning.
20. The cause of the mysterious illness remained _____ despite numerous tests.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The two events happened at the same time and can be considered .
22. The experiment's results were questioned due to concerns about the of the data.
23. The cause of the fire was determined to be faulty wiring in the building.
24. Her excitement and nervousness before the job interview were due to her anxiety.
25. The term "global warming" was officially by scientist Wallace Smith in the 1970s.
26. The film festival showcased a of cinematic genres from around the world.
27. Height is an example of a trait influenced by multiple genes.
28. Her role as a teacher allows her to knowledge and inspire a love of learning in her students.
29. Doctors prescribe to reduce fever and alleviate symptoms of the flu.
30. Before traveling to a malaria-infested region it is advisable to take measures like using mosquito nets.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. C) Proliferation 2. A) Antipyretics 3. B) Genomics 4. A) Conceivably 5. B) Polygenic
6. A) Disseminate 7. B) Embryo 8. C) Influx 9. B) Malicious 10. B) Integral

Gap-Fill: 11. exacerbated 12. prescriptions 13. haemorrhage 14. comprehensive 15. prophylactic 16.
infamous 17. devastating 18. malicious 19. convoluted 20. intracable

Matching sentence: 1. concurrent



2. validity 3. proximate 4. anticipatory 5. coined 6. gamut 7. polygenic 8. disseminate 9. antipyretics
10. prophylactic

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL6

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