



Media Scanning & Verification Cell



Media alert from the Media Scanning & Verification Cell, IDSP-NCDC.

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
6157	21.05.2021	21.05.2021	Karnataka	The Times of India English Newspaper 21st May, 2021/Page No. 10
Title:	40,000 under-9 kids test positive in 2 months in Karnataka			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to SSU-Karnataka			

There has been a sharp jump in the number of children and adolescents in Karnataka testing Covid positive in the second wave. The number of children aged 0-9 years testing positive in the past two months is 143% of the total infections reported till March 18 this year, while it was 160% in the 10-19 age group.

According to the state war room, 39,846 children aged 0-9 years and 1,05,044 aged 10-19 years have tested positive between March 18 and May 18 this year. The corresponding numbers since the pandemic began till March18 this year were 27,841 and 65,551, respectively.

The increase in deaths is less pronounced. While 28 children have died of the virus till March 18 this year, 15 more died since then till May 18. Deaths among adolescents went up from 46 to 62 in the past two months, an increase of 16. The monthly average of deaths during the second wave among children has been three times what it was before, and twice in the case of adolescents.

♦Save Water- Save Life, ♣ Save a tree- Don't print unless it's really necessary!

Disclaimer:- This is a media alert subject to verification.

Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
Ministry Of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India

22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi – 110 054

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"Within two days of a person being found infected, the rest of his/her family is also testing positive," said paediatrician Dr Srinivas Kasi.

In some cases, children are primary contacts of Covid patients. In most cases, they have been infected first in a family. "Children get infected easily and spread the virus as fast since they come in close contact with adults at home. Once children show the slightest symptoms, their caretakers must isolate with them," said a paediatrician from Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital.

Dr Supraja Chandrashekar, a paediatric intensivist at the hospital, said only one in 10 Covid-infected children requires hospitalisation and the rest can be treated home with strict monitoring of vitals.

"A Covid test must be done on kids when they have symptoms like fever, cough, loose motions or vomiting. They must be isolated with a caregiver. Children must not undergo CT scans, D dimer tests or blood investigation without doctor's advice," Dr Chandrashekar said.

"Many parents, once infected, leave the child with grandparents. Children are Covid butterflies and spread (it) faster. Grandparents will be at risk. Parents don't understand that kids would've already been infected and can remain with parents," Dr Chandrashekar said.

Dr Kasi said that the world can retur n to nor malcy only when children, too, are vaccinated.

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HOW TO MONITOR & WHEN TO REPORT

- Check child's respiratory rate, temperature every 8 hours with digital or mercury thermometer if he or she is showing symptoms
- Place child's hand flat on a hard surface, keep oximeter switched on for 30-45 seconds. Note pulse rate and oxygen saturation readings after waves appear on screen
- If child is under 5, then inform doctor if saturation is below 95%, pulse rate more than 120 per minute and respiratory rate more than 40 per minute
- Consult doctor if child develops high fever, rashes, abdominal pain, loose stools, vomiting, cold hands and feet

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