Dengue-1 Outbreak, Tuvalu: Situational Report 25th March to 3 August 2019 (Week 31, 29 July-3 August*)
Report Date: Thursday 7th August, 2019.

Outbreak Overview

• Dengue1 outbreak declared on the 27th of March 2019
• 509 dengue like illness (DLI) cases, were reported in Funafuti from March 25 to August 3 and 210 of them were confirmed.
• DLI cases in Funafuti peaked in weeks 14, 19 and 25.
• Only one (1) DLI suspected case was reported on Funafuti week 31.
• DLI cases from the Southern Outer Islands (OIs) follow the same downward trend now as in Funafuti but had peaked twice and at higher levels from Funafuti since end of June (week 26).

Demographics

• Age range: 0-65 years
• Female: Male ratio: 1:1.2
• Total average: 58%
• Median age:9yrs
• Majority of cases are children (5-9yrs)

Case Definition

• **Suspected case definition**: An acute febrile illness for more than 2 days with two or more of the following: nausea, aches, rash, low white blood cell, joint pain, warning signs
• **Confirmed case definition**: Isolation of dengue virus or detection of antigen NS 1 Ag or IgM antibody or IgM and IgG antibodies in blood

Laboratory

• All suspected cases are tested with RDT (SD Dengue Duo), at Princes Margaret Hospital in Funafuti
• Laboratory to detect presumptive dengue virus infection
• Dry Blood Spot samples were sent to IPNC (Institute Pasteur in New Caledonia), for serotyping on 1st July and 5 out of 11 to were confirmed as DENV-1 serotype.
• No DLI cases were positive NS 1 Ag or positive for IgM and IgG this week.

Outbreak Response

• Since mid June 181 locations (schools, hospitals and case houses and surrounds), were surveyed and controlled for larval breeding in Funafuti and 8 locations were surveyed in the Outer Islands
• Environmental survey and control activities for the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat meeting started on 24th July and an enhanced syndromic surveillance during PIFS will occur next week.
• Public awareness and community education activities started in March 24. Up to date distribution of pamphlets (3740), targeted the general population in the Outer Islands, and shops, public places, case houses, surroundings and contact of cases in Funafuti.
• Posters and banners were placed in 84 and 3 locations respectively in Funafuti (port and airport included), and the OIs and leaflets of dengue fever alerts (in English) targeted 240 visitors in Funafuti.
• Media were used to disseminated disease prevention messages through radio programs (18), radio spots (3) and talkback shows (2).
• Other outreach activities include a notification to community faith-based leaders at the early stage of the outbreak, 11 school visits targeting preschool, primary and secondary school children, and sensitising meeting with the Outer Islands leaders.
• A tracking survey was implemented to assess effectiveness and coverage of the risk communication campaigns.