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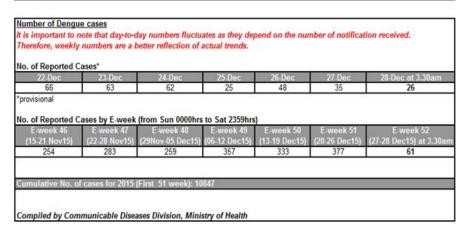
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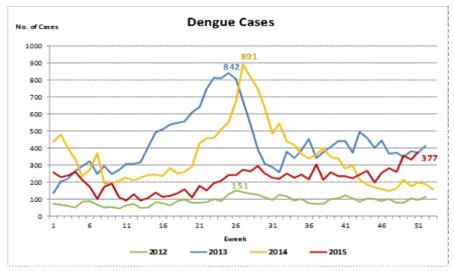
Dengue Cases

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We are seeing an increasing trend of dengue cases. 377 dengue cases were reported in the week ending 26 Dec, 44 cases more than in the previous week, and the highest so far this year. NEA urges all members of the public and stakeholders to stay vigilant and continue to work as a community to prevent dengue cases from rising. We are seeing an increase in the Aedes mosquito population, and are also experiencing a slightly warmer than usual year-end weather due to the El Niño phenomenon. The warmer conditions support faster breeding and maturation cycles of the Aedes mosquitoes, and shorten incubation periods for the dengue virus. Additionally, the proportion of dengue cases due to the DENV-2 serotype has increased and now accounts for more than half of all dengue cases in Singapore. The DENV-1 serotype had accounted for most of the dengue cases since March 2013. This change in the main circulating dengue virus may be an early indicator of a future dengue outbreak unless measures are taken to suppress the Aedes mosquito population.

Source eradication of mosquito breeding habitats remains key to preventing mosquito breeding. All stakeholders must play their part to help stem dengue transmission in the environment, by checking their premises daily for potential mosquito breeding habitats and removing them. Residents with plants in vases should change the water and scrub the inside of the vases every alternate day to prevent mosquito breeding. Those infected with dengue should also apply repellent as regularly as possible to prevent mosquitoes from biting and picking up the virus from them, and those showing symptoms suggestive of dengue, should see their GPs early to be diagnosed.

NEA encourages everyone to join in the collective effort to help stop the dengue transmission cycle by doing the 5-step Mozzle Wipeout. All of us, including residents, contractors, and business owners, have a part to play in preventing dengue. The latest updates on the dengue situation can be found at the Stop Dengue Now Facebook page, www.dengue.gov.sg or the myENV app.

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