

Review of Vaccine Injury Compensation Program based on Compensated Amount and Petition Reasons, 2006–2015

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Abstract

This study reviewed petitions for Vaccine Injury Compensation Program between 2006 and 2015. The most common claim for petition was disagreement on the decision on causality assessment between the adverse event and the vaccination, followed by unsatisfactory amount of compensation. The main reasons for unsatisfactory amount of compensation included physical and mental sickness due to vaccination, the economic loss for taking care of the victim, and related expenses due to adverse reaction. As long as the relevant regulations evolved, the upper limits for all relief items were increasing in 2013-2015. However, except for the compensation for other adverse reactions, the actual compensation amount for death, disabilities, or serious illness remained relatively constant. The gaps in expectation for higher amount from victims may bring doubts and dissatisfactions. More discussions related to compensation items and standards are needed for improving the program.

Keywords: Vaccination, compensation system, relief

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Weekly Data of Notifiable Infectious Diseases (by week of diagnosis)

Case diagnosis year		Week 46★		Week 1–46			
Classification	Disease Diagnosed	2018	2017	2018		2017	
				Total cases★	Imported cases	Total cases★	Imported cases
Category I	Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rabies	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SARS	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Acute Flaccid Paralysis	0	3	62	0	33	0
Category II	Acute Viral Hepatitis type A	1	5	77	29	354	46
	Amoebiasis	9	8	288	128	312	174
	Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Chikungunya Fever	0	0	6	6	11	11
	Cholera	0	0	7	0	2	1
	Dengue Fever	11	4	460	284	313	303
	Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Enterohemorrhagic E. coli Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Epidemic Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hemorrhagic Fever with Renal Syndrome	0	0	1	0	1	0
	Malaria	0	0	6	6	7	7
	Measles	0	0	36	9	5	5
	Meningococcal Meningitis	0	0	5	1	11	0
	Paratyphoid Fever	0	0	8	7	5	4
	Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rubella	0	0	10	9	3	2
	Shigellosis	3	7	150	48	151	54
	Typhoid fever	0	0	13	10	17	14
	West Nile Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
Category III	Acute Viral Hepatitis type B	0	6	127	9	140	8
	Acute Viral Hepatitis type C	12	10	416	4	277	2
	Acute Viral Hepatitis type D	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Acute Viral Hepatitis type E	0	1	6	0	15	3
	Congenital Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Congenital Rubella Syndrome	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Enteroviruses Infection with Severe Complications	0	0	36	0	11	0
	Haemophilus Influenza type b Infection	0	0	5	0	5	0
	Japanese Encephalitis	0	0	36	0	25	0
	Legionellosis	4	2	184	9	150	12
	Mumps	11	14	543	10	580	9
	Neonatal Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Pertussis	1	0	29	2	34	0
	Tetanus	0	0	5	0	9	0
Category IV	Botulism	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Brucellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Complicated Varicella	1	2	52	0	28	1
	Endemic Typhus Fever	0	1	23	1	35	1
	Herpesvirus B Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Invasive Pneumococcal Disease	7	8	409	0	407	3
	Leptospirosis	3	7	89	1	92	1
	Listeriosis	3	...	149	1
	Lyme Disease	0	0	2	2	1	1
	Melioidosis	0	1	23	1	24	0
	Q Fever	0	0	19	2	17	0
	Scrub Typhus	9	3	330	1	390	0
	Severe Complicated Influenza	15	2	1090	5	1289	7
	Toxoplasmosis	0	1	14	1	18	0
Tularemia	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Category V	Ebola Virus Disease	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Lassa Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Marburg Hemorrhagic Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Novel Influenza A Virus Infections	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Rift Valley Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Yellow Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zika virus infection	0	0	2	2	4	4	

- ★The weekly and cumulative total numbers include indigenous and imported cases of notifiable infectious diseases.
- MDR-TB, Tuberculosis, Syphilis, Gonorrhea, HIV Infection, AIDS, Hansen Disease and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease are excluded from the table.
- Numbers of mumps, neonatal tetanus and tetanus cases are summed up by the week of report.
- Since 2016/1/22, "Zika Virus Infection" was listed as a Notifiable Infectious Disease.
- Since 2018/1/1, "Listeriosis" was listed as a Notifiable Infectious Disease. Symbols "..." means not under surveillance.

Suspected Clusters

- Thirty clusters were reported, including 7 tuberculosis clusters, 11 diarrhea clusters, 6 upper respiratory tract infection clusters, 2 influenza-like illness clusters, 2 varicella clusters, and 2 enterovirus cluster.

Imported Infectious Diseases

- There were 15 confirmed imported cases from 7 countries during week 46 of 2018.

Disease \ Country	Vietnam	Indonesia	Cambodia	Philippines	Malaysia	China	Thailand	Total
DF	4		3	2			1	10
Amoebiasis		3						3
Acute Hepatitis C						1		1
Acute Hepatitis A					1			1
Total	4	3	3	2	1	1	1	15

Note: The table summarized the number of imported cases that were either **confirmed** or **updated** in the given week.

- There are 578 confirmed imported cases from 30 different countries in 2018. The top 3 countries are Indonesia (172), Philippines (71), and Vietnam (64).
- Top 3 imported diseases are Dengue Fever (284), Amoebiasis (128), and Shigellosis (48).

Summary of Epidemic

- **Dengue Fever:** The risk of indigenous dengue epidemics has been slowed down. Cases are still likely to occur sporadically. The dengue epidemics are still at its peak or in the midst in some of the nearby Asian countries, the potential risks of imported cases remain in Taiwan.
- **Influenza:** Influenza activity is expected to gradually increase due to large temperature differences between night and day.
- **Enterovirus:** Most reported cases experienced mild symptoms. However, cases of enterovirus infection with severe complications are likely to occur sporadically.

Weekly Data of Notifiable Infectious Diseases (by week of diagnosis)

Case diagnosis year		Week 47★		Week 1–47			
Classification	Disease Diagnosed	2018	2017	2018		2017	
				Total cases★	Imported cases	Total cases★	Imported cases
Category I	Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rabies	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SARS	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0
Category II	Acute Flaccid Paralysis	2	4	64	0	37	0
	Acute Viral Hepatitis type A	2	8	79	29	362	47
	Amoebiasis	8	4	296	131	316	176
	Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Chikungunya Fever	0	0	6	6	11	11
	Cholera	0	0	7	0	2	1
	Dengue Fever	10	4	470	290	317	307
	Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Enterohemorrhagic E. coli Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Epidemic Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hemorrhagic Fever with Renal Syndrome	0	0	1	0	1	0
	Malaria	0	0	6	6	7	7
	Measles	0	0	36	9	5	5
	Meningococcal Meningitis	0	0	5	1	11	0
	Paratyphoid Fever	0	0	8	7	5	4
	Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rubella	0	0	10	9	3	2	
Shigellosis	5	3	155	48	154	54	
Typhoid fever	0	0	13	10	17	14	
West Nile Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Category III	Acute Viral Hepatitis type B	3	0	130	9	140	8
	Acute Viral Hepatitis type C	5	2	421	4	279	2
	Acute Viral Hepatitis type D	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Acute Viral Hepatitis type E	1	0	7	0	15	3
	Congenital Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Congenital Rubella Syndrome	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Enteroviruses Infection with Severe Complications	1	0	37	0	11	0
	Haemophilus Influenza type b Infection	0	0	5	0	5	0
	Japanese Encephalitis	0	0	36	0	25	0
	Legionellosis	3	3	187	9	153	13
	Mumps	9	15	552	10	595	9
	Neonatal Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pertussis	1	0	30	2	34	0	
Tetanus	0	1	5	0	10	0	
Category IV	Botulism	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Brucellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Complicated Varicella	0	0	52	0	28	1
	Endemic Typhus Fever	0	0	23	1	35	1
	Herpesvirus B Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Invasive Pneumococcal Disease	8	9	417	0	416	3
	Leptospirosis	0	4	89	1	96	1
	Listeriosis	3	...	152	1
	Lyme Disease	0	0	2	2	1	1
	Melioidosis	0	0	23	1	24	0
	Q Fever	0	1	19	2	18	0
	Scrub Typhus	10	1	340	2	391	0
Severe Complicated Influenza	8	4	1098	5	1293	7	
Toxoplasmosis	0	1	14	1	19	0	
Tularemia	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Category V	Ebola Virus Disease	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Lassa Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Marburg Hemorrhagic Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Novel Influenza A Virus Infections	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Rift Valley Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Yellow Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zika virus infection	0	0	2	2	4	4	

1. ★The weekly and cumulative total numbers include indigenous and imported cases of notifiable infectious diseases.
2. MDR-TB, Tuberculosis, Syphilis, Gonorrhoea, HIV Infection, AIDS, Hansen Disease and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease are excluded from the table.
3. Numbers of mumps, neonatal tetanus and tetanus cases are summed up by the week of report.
4. Since 2016/1/22, "Zika Virus Infection" was listed as a Notifiable Infectious Disease.
5. Since 2018/1/1, "Listeriosis" was listed as a Notifiable Infectious Disease. Symbols "..." means not under surveillance.

Suspected Clusters

- Twenty-two clusters were reported, including 7 tuberculosis clusters, 5 diarrhea clusters, 2 upper respiratory tract infection clusters, 2 influenza-like illness clusters, and 6 varicella clusters.

Imported Infectious Diseases

- There were 10 confirmed imported cases from 7 countries during week 47 of 2018.

Country Disease	Indonesia	Vietnam	Thailand	India	Singapore	Philippines	Cambodia	Total
DF		2	1	1	1		1	6
Amoebiasis	2					1		3
Scrub Typhus			1					1
Total	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	10

Note: The table summarized the number of imported cases that were either **confirmed** or **updated** in the given week.

- There are 588 confirmed imported cases from 30 different countries in 2018. The top 3 countries are Indonesia (174), Philippines (72), and Vietnam (66).
- Top 3 imported diseases are Dengue Fever (290), Amoebiasis (131), and Shigellosis (48).

Summary of Epidemic

- **Dengue Fever:** The risk of indigenous dengue epidemics has been slowed down. However, cases are likely to occur sporadically. The dengue epidemics are still at its peak or in the midst in some of the nearby Asian countries, the potential risks of imported cases remain in Taiwan.
- **Influenza:** Influenza activity is expected to gradually increase due to large temperature differences between night and day.
- **Enterovirus:** Most reported cases experienced mild symptoms. However, cases of enterovirus infection with severe complications are likely to occur sporadically.

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