



## Original Article

### Epidemiology of Imported Chikungunya Fever Cases in Taiwan, 2008-2013

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#### Abstract

Chikungunya fever, a mosquito-borne, febrile illness caused by Chikungunya virus, is prevalent in South East Asian countries. Both *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*, two common vectors for chikungunya fever, are widely distributed in Taiwan that pose a high risk for disease outbreak once the virus introduced into this country. We conducted a retrospective study to explore current epidemiology of this disease in Taiwan. Data of the reported cases of chikungunya fever during January 2008-September 2013 were retrieved from both databases, the National Notifiable Disease Surveillance System and the Investigation System, and analyzed. A total of 281 cases were reported during the study period, of which 229 (82%) were notified by health care workers and 62 (22 %) have been laboratory-confirmed. All of the 62 confirmed cases acquired the infection in other countries, including Indonesia, 36 (58%), followed by the Philippines, 9 (14.5%), and Malaysia, 7 (11.2%). The mean age of the confirmed case patients was 38 years. Fever (62.9%), joint pain (25.8%) and skin rash (24.2%) were common presentations. The interval between onset of disease and initial report was 8 days, longer than the viremic period. The result highlighted the need for strengthening clinician awareness and knowledge of chikungunya fever. In addition, enhancing the public self-protection awareness through education programs of travel medicine and implementing effective measures to achieve sustainable vector control are recommended to reduce the risk of epidemic of chikungunya fever in Taiwan.

**Keyword :** Chikungunya fever, chikungunya virus, vector, mosquito

## Outbreak Investigation Express

### First Domestic Measles Outbreak Linked to an Imported Case -Taiwan, 2014

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#### Abstract

Measles is an acute viral infectious disease with clinical manifestations ranging from mild illness to lethal outcome. One man who came back from Philippines was diagnosed with measles in April 2014. The genotype of the virus strain was B3 which had been endemic in the Philippines. Of the 90 contacts, two developed measles with the same genotype during the follow-up periods. Our report highlights the significance of laboratory diagnostics in measles outbreak investigation. Individuals, of whom the immunity against measles might have waned gradually after vaccination, are potentially susceptible to infection after exposure to measles patient.

**Keyword:** Measles, genotyping of measles, measles vaccine

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