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Outbreak Investigation

Case Report of Congenital Rubella Syndrome Identified By Active Surveillance System, Taichung, 2017

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Abstract

Pregnant women infected with rubella at early trimester may transmit viruses to the fetus through placenta and lead to multiple organ defects, causing congenital rubella syndrome (CRS). Immunization is the most effective way to prevent CRS. In Taiwan, no CRS cases were detected after 2009. This article describes a case of CRS, an 8-month-old female who suffered from deafness and congenital cataracts, discovered by the active surveillance system and confirmed by the epidemiological investigation. To prevent and diagnose CRS as early as possible, we recommend strengthening the awareness of disease prevention and education for new immigrants, testing rubella IgM for pregnant women at times when applying for visa. For early detection of CRS cases, training in differential diagnosis and alertness of CRS reporting among health care workers should also be strengthened. We also recommend establishing a registry and management program for CRS cases and medical resources referring channel, proactive care and treatment to prevent disability outcomes, alleviate familial stresses, reduce the burden of medical finance and promote the health and benefits of the public.

Keywords: Congenital Rubella Syndrome, rubella, surveillance, vaccine policy

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