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Project Title:  
Project Number:DOH96-DC-  
Executing Institute:  
Principal Investigator(P.I.):  
P.I. Position Title:  
P.I. Institute:  
Abstract:

Since the large-scale outbreak of enterovirus 71 in 1998, smaller endemics were witnessed during every summer in Taiwan. In particular years of 2000, 2001 and 2005, enterovirus 71 contributed to a significant number of severe diseases and fatalities. There were clusters of neonatal enterovirus infections caused by coxsackievirus in year 1994, 1996 and 2005, contributing up to 20 % of fatalities in this fragile group. Enterovirus threatened the healthy living of our children.

This integrated project are divided into 4 subs : First, the preliminary results of the seroepidemiology of the important enteroviruses in Taiwan revealed more than half of the childbearing ages had already contained antibodies of coxsackievirus B1 and B3. Nevertheless, less than half of the children younger than 9 year-old were seropositive for enterovirus 71. Second, after analyzing the characteristics of enterovirus 71 epidemics, we found a positive correlation between the case numbers of acute flaccid paralysis, Japanese B encephalitis and the numbers of persons in a family. Third, we have already set up the platform of the real-time RT-PCR, and other techniques of molecular biology, and immunology. Continued surveillance of neonatal enterovirus diseases is ongoing, although there was no outbreak in 2007. Last, the policy of suspending classes, washing hands, and wearing masks to prevent the spreading of enteroviruses were extrapolated to be effective by using the computer simulation.

Hopefully, the preliminary results will be helpful for the public health policy of the government. Moreover, the accomplishment of this integrated project will be completed after the work in the following year.

Keyword: Seroepidemiology,Entervirus 71