

Japanese Encephalitis

and A New Vaccine

 with **Good Efficacy & Safety**



What is Japanese Encephalitis ?

Japanese encephalitis (JE) is a serious disease that causes encephalitis, or infection of the brain. Part of Infected patients could be fully recovered but the disease can cause serious problems like seizures or paralysis, and some patients die. JE is the leading cause of viral encephalitis in Asia. **Up to 30% of people who get JE die. About 40% have some sort of disability including paralysis, mental retardation, recurrent seizures, or personality changes.**

How do people get JE ?

JE is caused by a virus through the bite of infected mosquitoes. The virus infects animals like pigs and birds. If a mosquito bites an infected animal and then bites a human, the person can become infected with the JE virus. After a person is bitten by a mosquito, the JE virus invades parts of the central nervous system including the brain and spinal cord and symptoms then occur.



Who is at risk for JE Infection ?

Countries with JE risk are in Asia from parts of the Western Pacific region, Pakistan, India through China, **Thailand**, Japan, south to Papua New Guinea and the islands of the Torres Strait in Australia.

The disease is most frequently found in children between the ages of 1 to 15 years, adults can be infected if they are not immuned to this virus e.g. adult who come from non endemic area.

What are the symptoms of JE ?

- The illness usually begins just like the flu with high fever, chills, tiredness, severe headache, nausea, and vomiting.
- A person may show abnormal behavior or become confused and agitated, or a child may be unusually sleepy.
- A person may develop seizures, become semiconscious, or become comatose and cannot be awakened.

What is the treatment for JE ?

While **there is no specific treatment for JE**, supportive care in a medical facility is important to reduce the risk of death or disability. Patient care involves preventing and treating

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