# Status of herpes and RSV infection

## Under alert level threshold

Document 2

2023 data is as of July 9 (Week 27)



## • No. of reported RSV patients weekly per fixed point medical facility (Tokyo)



## **Measles and rubella**

### Measles in Tokyo/measles patients update



#### • Tracking measles patients in Tokyo

2023 data is as of July 9 (Week 27)

#### • Tracking rubella patients in Tokyo



### Measles and rubella – MR vaccination status -

Tokyo vaccination status (MR vaccine)

• To prevent measles and rubella outbreaks, two shots are required at stage 1 (12-23 months of age) and stage 2 (age 5-6). It is desirable to maintain a vaccination rate of 95% or higher for both



Tokyo vaccination status (current and target)

• Stage 1 (12-23 months of age) FY2022 vaccination rate 97.5% Level of at least 95% maintained

• Stage 2 (age 5-6) FY2022 vaccination rate 92.1%

Lower than FY2021 and lowest since 2019

## Awareness-raising required to boost vaccination rate (especially at Stage 2)

## Measures against measles and rubella-Focused summer campaign -

# Measles and rubella scheduled vaccinations – initiatives to boost vaccination rate

## 1 Measles and rubella taskforce convened (August)

Objective: To boost vaccination rates and promote effective awareness-raising Membership: Tokyo Metropolitan Medical Association, hospitals, government agencies (TMG, special wards, municipalities), others related to immunization, district health, medicine, education and childcare

Key agenda: Measles/rubella outbreaks, Tokyo Metropolitan measures against measles and rubella

### 2 Publicity materials created encouraging uptake of the second shot

Team up with municipalities to raise awareness leveraging pre-enrolment health checkup, school orientation meetings, etc.

#### Publicity materials



### Additional rubella measures: antibody testing and immunization campaign

• Men born between April 2, 1962 and April 1, 1979 (aged 44-61) were not covered by public immunization so if they catch rubella, they could spread the infection

### Description advertising (in Tokyo Metro, Toei subway) Public transport advertising has very broad reach of viewership

## **2** Video ads (YouTube)

Directly appeal to target audience and relevant demographics by setting target

### Campaign period: late July to early August

Video advertisement screen grab



## Status of syphilis infection (Tokyo)

## • In Tokyo, 3,677 cases were reported in 2022, 1.5 times the cases reported in

## 2021 at 2,465

• Reported cases in Tokyo in 2023 are at 1,955 as of July 9 (about 11% more than the same time in 2022)



Infections in Tokyo (annual report)\* 2023 data as of July 9 (Week 27)

## Strengthening measures against syphilis

## Expanded testing system

**1 Tama Area** Testing and Counselling office (Tachikawa) \*Booking required

In addition to Saturday testing, Sunday testing will begin for first time in Tama area

Weekly from mid-August

- ② Shinjuku East Gate Testing and Counselling office (Kabukicho) \*Booking required New instant testing for women Monthly from September 2023 to March 2024 (public holidays)
- Awareness-raising

Campaign to boost awareness of immunization and early detection over the summer

Focused PR using transport advertising and signage

Play educational videos on signs in public transport, in busy streets, etc.

#### Advertising online, SNS

Directly appeal to youth and relevant demographics through targeted ads

#### Raising awareness through manga

Appeal to youth by using popular manga format

\*Details to be announced shortly



# Tick-borne infectious diseases

## What are Tick-borne infectious diseases?

- Infectious diseases caught from bites of infected fleas (especially ticks)
- Cases of infection with diseases such as Severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome (SFTS), Japanese spotted fever and Tsutsugamushi disease are reported in Japan, and can result in death in serious cases
- Fatal cases of Oz virus may have been transmitted by tick

## About ticks

### • Overview

Adult ticks are 3-8mm long

(these are a different species from allergenic dust mites or claw mites that cause itchiness from indoor bites during the summer)

- Grow to 10-20mm when full of blood
- Tick habitat
  - All of Japan

• Frequently found in environments inhabited by wild animals (such as grasslands)

 Also found in fields or rice paddy paths in good natural environments near towns and cities

Active from spring to autumn, and even in winter in warmer regions



Adult tick (before blood ingestion)



Adult tick (before and after blood ingestion)

# Tick-borne infectious diseases – cases in Japan and Tokyo-

### **Recent cases in Japan**

Created from National Institute of Infectious Diseases website and local government press release documents

## Severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome (SFTS)

- (Tick-borne, no cases in Tokyo)
- Mostly reported from Western Japan, but a case was reported in Shizuoka Pref. in 2021

 First fatality reported in Japan in 2013; in May 2023 a man in his 40s died of SFTS in Kumamoto Pref.

- Japanese spotted fever (Tick-borne, no cases in Tokyo since 2010)
  - Woman in her 70s died of disease in Hiroshima Pref. in May 2023
- Tsutsugamushi disease (mite-borne, cases of infection reported in Tokyo)
  In June 2023, an Aomori Pref. woman in her 80s contracted the disease and died
- **Oz virus** (possibly tick-borne)
  - Death of an Ibaraki Pref. woman in her 70s reported in 2022 World's first reported fatal case in human (announced June 2023)

## Tsutsugamushi disease in Tokyo

- Recent cases of Tsutsugamushi disease in Tokyo equal number of cases in Tokyo islands and Tama area
- If a Tick-borne disease such as Tsutsugamushi disease is suspected in Tokyo, testing compliant with the National Institute of Infectious Diseases standard is set up at Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health





fatalities reported widely around

Japan

## Tick-borne infectious diseases – prevention and countermeasures-

## Treatment/countermeasures

## Treatment (SFTS)

Mainly treat symptoms, no particular antivirals or other medications are effective

## • Prevention/management

Avoid flea bites
 Main point

If working on farm or hiking in forest, avoid exposing skin by wearing long sleeves and trousers

• If you are bitten by a tick, it is important to go to hospital rather than dealing with it yourself

 If you notice fever or other symptoms, get checked by a doctor. It is important to inform the doctor of the following:





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#### What kinds of disease?

Tick-borne diseases transmitted by the bite of a flea, tick or mite include Tsutsugamushi disease, Japanese spotted fever, Severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome (SFTS) and tick-borne encephalitis. Most tick-borne infections cause symptoms such as fever, headache, joint pain, and swollen lymph nodes within days to weeks of the bite. In severe cases of SFTS, cognitive impairment and hemorrhagic symptoms can appear and deteriorate. The fatality rate in Japan is around 25-30%.

\*The "ticks" here do not include indoor dust mites.

#### How do they spread?

While the diseases are tick-borne, not all ticks, fleas and mites carry disease. Their habitat covers the whole of Japan. They are particularly common in environments inhabited by wild animals, but also in fields or rice paddy paths in unpolluted natural environments near towns and cities.

#### How to prevent them?

In addition to humans, ticks also feed on the blood of wild animals, cats and dogs. Commonly found in forests, they also inhabit gardens, fields and rice paddy paths, so if you are working on a farm or hiking into a forest, wear long sleeves and pants and avoid exposing skin to prevent bites. Also wear light-colored clothing so it is easier to see any ticks on you.

#### How to prevent them?

If you try to remove the body of the tick by force after a bite, any disease can enter your body and parts of the insect can remain embedded in your skin. Instead of trying to remove the tick, take it to a hospital for inspection. After a tick bite, watch for any physical changes over the next few weeks and if a fever or other symptoms begin, go to a medical facility for diagnosis.







From the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health website