VL Elimination in India- An update

Dr A C Dhariwal
Director, NVBDCP
Dte. General of Health Services
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India
Kala-azar: Endemic States and Districts

6 districts
Pop. – 11.0 mil

34 districts
Pop. – 62.3 mil

4 districts
Pop: 6.7 mil

11 districts
Pop. – 50 mil

States : 4
Districts : 55
Blocks : 628
Population : 130 million
Achievement

Kala azar cases and deaths in the country since 2007

- Road Map for KA Elimination launched in Sept 2014 with timeline
- Single-day single-dose injection of Liposomal Amphotericin B (LAMB) for treatment of Kala-azar introduced in 2015.
- Synthetic Pyrethroid introduced for Indoor Residual Spray (IRS)
- Development Partners involved viz. BMGF-CARE, Kalacore consortium
- Out of 628 Kala-azar endemic blocks, 492 (78%) endemic Block PHCs have recorded annual incidence rate of < 1 case per 10,000 population at Block PHC level in 2015
## Kala-azar Elimination– District/Block-wise Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Total No. of endemic Districts</th>
<th>Total KA endemic Block PHC</th>
<th>&lt;1 case per 10,000 Pop.</th>
<th>&gt;1 case per 10,000 Pop.</th>
<th>No. of district &gt; 1 case per 10,000 Pop.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>356 (78%)</td>
<td>103 (22%)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>6 (18%)</td>
<td>27 (82%)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>118 (95%)</td>
<td>6 (5%)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12 (100%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>628</td>
<td>492 (78%)</td>
<td>136 (22%)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In 2014</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>611</td>
<td>454 (74%)</td>
<td>157 (26%)</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kala-azar Elimination Initiatives (I)

• Kala-azar Elimination progress reviewed monthly by Hon’ble Prime Minister’s office

• Last review held on 28\textsuperscript{th} Oct.’16 by Principal Secretary to Hon’ble PM. The following decisions taken:

  - Provision of loss of wages to Kala-azar patients by other states also on the line of Bihar Chief Minister’s Relief Funds
  - SMS from Hon’ble Prime Minister to the Block Development Officers for accelerating the elimination target by 2017. Hon’ble Prime Minister will meet them in person.
Kala-azar Elimination Initiatives (II)

- Extensive dissemination about facilities provided by Govt. of India, States and Stakeholders for Kala-azar Elimination and treatment of patients
- Independent Assessment for achievement made so far
- Close monitoring in 151 in high endemic villages in 52 blocks and 23 districts showing > 5 cases / village
- Regular reviews by officers from Center and State level
- No stock-out of drugs and diagnostics
- Sufficient funds have been allocated
- NITI Aayog has provisioned additional funds USD 3.38 million for KA elimination activities
State Specific Progress

- Bihar - Good progress in Kala-azar Elimination. 356 (78%) blocks out of 459 blocks achieved less than one case / 10,000 population in 2015.

- Jharkhand need to improve case detection & IRS. 27 (82%) blocks still reporting more than one case / 10,000 population.

- West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh are close to elimination and therefore need to further improve surveillance and other KAE related activities.
Kala-azar Elimination and Sustainable Development Goals

• **Goal 1- End poverty in all its forms everywhere**
  • Free treatment by Single-day, Single-dose treatment and wage-loss compensation for alleviation of poverty

• **Goal 3- Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages**
  • No death due to Kala-azar till date in 2016

• **Goal 6- Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all**
  • Proper housing and sanitation in the village- a way to make Kala-azar Free India
Challenges

• Sustenance of Elimination

• Post-Kala-azar Dermal Leishmaniasis (PKDL) Cases (acting as reservoir of infection)

• HIV-VL (Visceral Leishmaniasis) co-infection

• Resistance to drug / insecticides

• Timely release of fund to Districts and below
Plan of Action with Time Line (1)

- Validation by Independent Agencies in 2017
- Dossier submission to WHO for verification in 2018
- Sustenance of elimination status for three years (2018 to 2020)
Plan of Action with Time Line (2)

• Review of progress of Kala-azar Elimination at Ranchi and Patna with Block Medical Officers in month of November 2016

• National level review to oversee progress made under Road Map of Kala-azar Elimination involving all stakeholders in December 2016

• Regular monitoring of IRS and Insecticide Resistance

• Active detection and treatment of PKDL cases

• Sustenance of elimination in already achieved blocks
Thank You