

A Study of Malaria in National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi

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Abstract

Background: To the best knowledge of the author, there is no available literature on the status of Malaria in NCT of Delhi. Hence the preparation of this document.

Objectives: To find out the parameters of Malaria in NCT of Delhi till as recently as possible.

Methods: By studying the documents prepared by the National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases (NCVBD) and doing a web search on Malaria in NCT of Delhi.

Results: It is seen that the Annual Parasite Incidence (API) of Malaria in NCT of Delhi had come down to the very low level of 0.02 in 2018 and that there were only 102 cases of Malaria in NCT of Delhi during 2021 as of September 28th of that year.

Conclusions: NCT of Delhi is very close to achieving near-elimination goals but will have to take active measures to reach it.

Keywords: Malaria; Delhi; API; NCVBD; WHO.

INTRODUCTION

NCT of Delhi is in the northern part of India. It is bordered by Haryana in the North, West and South and by Uttar Pradesh in the East.

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MATERIAL & METHODS

The study design included analysis of the annual reports of the Malaria Division of the National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases Control (NCVBDC) for 2017 and 2018 and a web search for information on Malaria in NCT of Delhi.

RESULTS

According to the most recent data available on the NCVBDC website (data for 2018), the API for NCT of Delhi was 0.02.² It's comparison with the API from 2017 can be seen from the following table:

Further search revealed the following information on Malaria cases in NCT of Delhi during 2019, 2020



Fig. 1: Map of NCT of Delhi [Source: (1)]

and 2021 and is shown in the following table:

Table 1: API of NCT of Delhi, 2017 and 2018

Union Territory	Year	
	2017	2018
NCT of Delhi	0.03	0.02

Sources: (2) and (3)

Table 2: Data on Malaria Cases in NCT of Delhi, 2019, 2020 and 2021

Reference Period	Number of Malaria Cases
January 1, 2019, to August 17, 2019	111
January 1, 2020, to September 25, 2020	149
January 1, 2021, to September 28, 2021	102

Sources: (4) and (5)

DISCUSSION

Beginning in 2017, there is a decline in the incidence of malaria in NCT of Delhi with a mild increase during 2020.

In 2016, the Government of India adopted a framework for Malaria Elimination in India covering the period 2016 – 2030.⁶ This was based on WHO's Global Technical Strategy for Malaria covering the period 2016 – 2030 which was adopted in 2015 and updated in 2021.⁷

The aim is to reach zero Malaria cases by 2027 and then wait for three years before WHO can grant Malaria-free status certification. It is already nearly the middle of 2022 and India is about to reach the halfway mark of the period from 2016 to 2027.

CONCLUSION

Although NCT of Delhi did not reach zero Malaria cases in 2021, it did reach an API of 0.02 during 2018. Therefore, it is a good candidate for being the first administrative territory in the country close to being able to achieve near elimination goals.

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