Medical Xpress

Dengue fever linked to increased risk of stroke

March 12 2018

Credit: CC0 Public Domain

A new study has found that people with dengue fever have a higher risk of stroke, especially in the first 2 months following infection. The study is published in *CMAJ* (*Canadian Medical Association Journal*).

"Clinicians in dengue-endemic areas should be aware of this association, especially for patients with dengue who have neurologic deficits or for patients with stroke who have unexplained fever," writes Dr. Chia-Hung Kao, Department of Nuclear Medicine and PET Center, China Medical University Hospital, Taichung, Taiwan, with coauthors.

Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral infection that infects at least 100 million people every year around the world, with about 4 billion people at risk of the illness, which includes dengue hemorrhagic fever that can lead to spontaneous bleeding, organ failure and death. It is found in many countries in South and Southeast Asia, Africa, South America, the Caribbean, in the United States and more.

The researchers looked at data on 13 787 patients (most between 31 and 60 years of age) with newly diagnosed dengue between 2000 and 2012. They found the incidence of stroke was higher in people with dengue fever (5.33 v. 3.72 per 1000 person-years). The risk of stroke was as high as 2.49 times in the first 2 months of infection with dengue relative to control patients who did not have dengue.

"Our findings may help with clinical risk evaluation and may serve as a basis for further investigation of the pathogenesis of dengue-related stroke," conclude the authors.

More information: Hao-Ming Li et al. Risk of stroke in patients with dengue fever: a population-based cohort study, *Canadian Medical Association Journal* (2018). DOI: 10.1503/cmaj.170994

Provided by Canadian Medical Association Journal

Citation: Dengue fever linked to increased risk of stroke (2018, March 12) retrieved 9 May 2024

from https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-03-dengue-fever-linked.html

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.