Pakistani officials say outbreak of dengue fever kills 20

September 24 2019

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Pakistani health officials are battling an outbreak of dengue fever in the South Asian nation, confirming over 10,000 cases and 20 deaths in recent months.

More patients with symptoms of dengue fever were arriving Tuesday at hospitals in all major cities, putting a strain on the country's poor health system.

Zafar Mirza, a government adviser on health, says as many as 10,013 dengue cases have so far been reported and that free medical treatment will be provided to patients suffering from illness.

The mosquito-borne viral infection kills dozens of people every year in Pakistan.

Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral infection found in tropical countries worldwide.

It can cause joint pain, nausea, vomiting and a rash, and can cause breathing problems, hemorrhaging and organ failure in severe cases.

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Citation: Pakistani officials say outbreak of dengue fever kills 20 (2019, September 24) retrieved 18 April 2024 from https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-09-pakistani-outbreak-dengue-fever.html

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