

Kyasanur Forest Disease

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KYASANUR FOREST DISEASE



Kyasanur Forest Disease Latest News

A 29-year-old man in Karnataka has tragically lost his life recently after contracting Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD), commonly known as monkey fever, bringing fresh attention to a disease that often goes unnoticed until it turns fatal.

About Kyasanur Forest Disease

- It is a **tick-borne viral haemorrhagic disease** mostly found in **southern India**.
- The disease was **first reported** from the **Kyasanur Forest** of **Karnataka** in India in **1957**; hence, it is known as KFD.
- The **causal agent, KFD Virus** (family Flaviviridae, genus Flavivirus), is a member of the tick-borne encephalitis (TBE) complex.
- It is also **known as “monkey disease/monkey fever”** because of its association with monkey deaths.

Kyasanur Forest Disease Transmission

- **Hard ticks** (*Hemaphysalis spinigera*) **spread the KFD virus to people and to animals**, like monkeys and rodents.
- **Transmission to humans** may occur after a **tick bite or contact with an infected animal**, most importantly a sick or recently dead monkey.
- KFD **does not spread between people**.
- The **epidemic period usually begins in October** or November and **peaks from January to April**, then declines by May and June.

Kyasanur Forest Disease Symptoms

- Sudden onset of high-grade **fever, prostration, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea**, and occasionally **neurological and haemorrhagic manifestations**.
- Between **5 and 10%** of people who are known to be affected by KFD **die**.

Kyasanur Forest Disease Treatment

- There is **no cure** for KFD.
- **Supportive care** is crucial, including fluid balance, providing oxygen, managing blood pressure, and treating additional infections.
- With quick medical care, many patients recover from KFD without complications.

Kyasanur Forest Disease Vaccine

A **vaccine for KFD is available** and recommended in the parts of India where KFD is found.

Source: TOI

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/kfd/>

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