11-22-1991

Guatemala: Report On Incidence Of Malaria & Dengue Fever

Deborah Tyroler

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen

Recommended Citation

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiCen by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.
Guatemala: Report On Incidence Of Malaria & Dengue Fever

by Deborah Tyroler
Category/Department: General
Published: Friday, November 22, 1991

In statements to reporters on Nov. 14, Rolando Yoc, member from the health workers union employed in the Health Ministry's malaria division, said 42,000 Guatemalans are currently infected with malaria, and 10,000 with dengue fever. Yoc said that thus far in 1991, 5,000 new cases of malaria have been confirmed. According to Yoc, El Peten department was most affected by malaria with 9,984 confirmed cases, and an at-risk population of 273,000. In Alta Verapaz and Baja Verapaz departments, confirmed cases number 7,763, and the at-risk population is estimated at 484,600; in the southern coastal region, 6,761 and 75,000, respectively; western Guatemala, 5,500 and 416,000; northeastern Guatemala, 5,300 and 770,000. Another 5,000 victims of malaria reside elsewhere in the country. Health Minister Miguel Montepeque denied the accuracy of Yoc's reports, asserting that malaria cases numbered only 8,000, and dengue fever, 9,000. He confirmed that dengue fever had been diagnosed in El Peten, Izabal, and San Marcos departments. Montepeque said Yoc is not employed in the ministry's malaria division, and furthermore, had not been authorized to make public statements. According to the UN Development Programme (UNDP), 57% of Guatemalans have no access to health services. Potable water is not available to 61% of the population. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, 11/14/91)

-- End --