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Perspective

Safety and precautions for tomato flu in humans

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ABOUT THE STUDY

Tomato flu is a viral illness that gets its name from the blisters that resemble tomatoes and appear on various body areas. The signs and symptoms go away after a few days, indicating that it is a self-limiting illness. When the blisters expand, they turn from small red blisters to larger ones that resemble tomatoes. These blisters represent those that toddlers with the monkey pox virus acquire. Children under the age of five are most commonly affected by tomato flu, an uncommon viral illness that causes skin irritation, dehydration, and rashes. The main signs and symptoms seen in children with tomato flu are reminiscent to those seen in those with chikungunya and include a high temperature, rashes, and severe joint pain. Studies indicate that the viral hand, foot, and mouth disease, which typically affects kids between both the ages of one and five and immune-compromised adults, may have a new iteration. Since viral infections are widespread in children this age and propagation is most probable through intimate interaction, children are more likely to be exposed to tomato flu. Children and adolescents can acquire this virus by touching contaminated surfaces, wearing dresses, and putting things in their mouths directly. They hypothesized that the unique tomato-shaped rash might be a result of how significantly COVID-exposed children responded to secondary infection. There was even a notion that it might be monkey pox because of the enormous size of the blisters. Given the similarity to hand, foot, and mouth illness, transmission of tomato flu could have major repercussions by spreading to adults if the outbreak in children is not isolated and stopped. Like other influenza strains, tomato flu is highly infectious. However, it is essential to carefully isolate confirmed or suspected cases and take additional preventative measures to stop the tomato flu virus from spreading from Cochin to other regions of India. To stop the virus from spreading to other children or adults, isolation should be maintained for 5-7 days after the onset of symptoms. The greatest method of prevention is ensuring good hygiene, sanitizing the immediate area, and keeping the infected child from sharing toys, clothes, food, or other objects with other children who are ill. Tomato virus infection is validated once these viral infections have been ruled out. Molecular and serological testing are used to detect dengue, chikungunya, zika virus, varicella-zoster virus, and herpes in children with these symptoms. Tomato flu treatment is similar to that of chikungunya, dengue, and hand, foot, and mouth disease in that it includes isolation, relaxation, a lot of fluids, and hot water compresses to relieve itching and rashes. It is necessary to use paracetamol as supportive therapy for fever, body aches, and other symptoms. The most efficient and cost-effective methods for protecting the public from viral infections, particularly in children, the elderly, immunocompromised individuals, and those with underlying medical conditions, are drug repurposing and vaccination. Tomato flu cannot yet be treated or prevented with antiviral medications or vaccinations. To better understand the need for potential treatments, additional follow-up and monitoring for significant outcomes and effects are essential.

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