

CARDIAC INVOLVEMENT IN DENGUE VIRUS INFECTIONS DURING THE 2004/2005 DENGUE FEVER SEASON IN SRI LANKA

Dominic Wichmann¹, Senanayake Kularatne², Stephan Ehrhardt³, Sriyal Wijesinghe², Norbert W Brattig⁴, Walter Abel⁵ and Gerd D Burchard¹

¹Medical Department - Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, University Hospital Hamburg Eppendorf, Hamburg Germany; ²Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Peradeniya University, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ³Clinical Research, Bernhard-Nocht-Institute for Tropical Medicine, ⁴Department of Molecular Medicine, ⁵Department of Laboratory Medicine, Trauma Hospital Berlin, Germany

Abstract. Sri Lanka experienced a dramatic increase in dengue cases (15,400) in the 2004 - 2005 season. We carried out a prospective study to investigate cardiac involvement in dengue virus infected patients during the 2004 - 2005 season in Peradeniya, Central Province, Sri Lanka. Cardiac involvement was defined as elevated levels of myoglobin, creatine kinase-muscle brain-type, N-terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide, heart-type fatty acid-binding protein and troponin T. Twenty-five percent of dengue virus infected patients had one or more of the above tests with abnormal results.

Correspondence: Dr Dominic Wichmann, University Hospital Hamburg Eppendorf, 1. Medical Department - Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, Martinistr. 52, 20246 Hamburg, Germany.

Tel: ++49 (0)40 7410 51331; Fax: ++49 (0)40 7410 51334

E-mail: wichmann@bni-hamburg.de