

BACKGROUND

A recent multiple case reporting of spinal epidural abscess following Dengue(with resolution) needing surgical evacuation has been reported in our institute. With only minimum literature on such presentations, these cases holds significance.

AIM AND METHODOLOGY

We selected 6 cases which presented to ED in the period of July-August 2017,with complaints of recent onset back pain, which turned out to be spinal epidural abscess, warranting surgical evacuation. All cases were post Dengue with resolution of fever in the background.

Aim of this study is to look into the causes for a recent increased incidence of spinal epidural abscess post Dengue fever and the possible etiology and associations.

CASE DISCUSSION

- Over 30,000 dengue cases reported in India till August 2017.
- Reported neurological complications include *transverse myelitis, brachial neuritis, encephalitis, meningitis, myositis, stroke, hypokalemic paralysis*.
- Almost no previous reports on epidural abscess post dengue.
- Possible association with drastically changing virologic characteristics.
- All studied cases presented with complaints of recent onset low back ache and other neurological symptoms like tingling, numbness, paraesthesia and MRI showing epidural abscess.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Age group: 50-75 years
- Male: female- 2:1
- Post dengue period: >2 weeks
- No association to DM,HTN,CAD or TB in the past
- A strong association with MRSA(4 out of 6)
- All cases underwent surgical evacuation without complications post surgery.

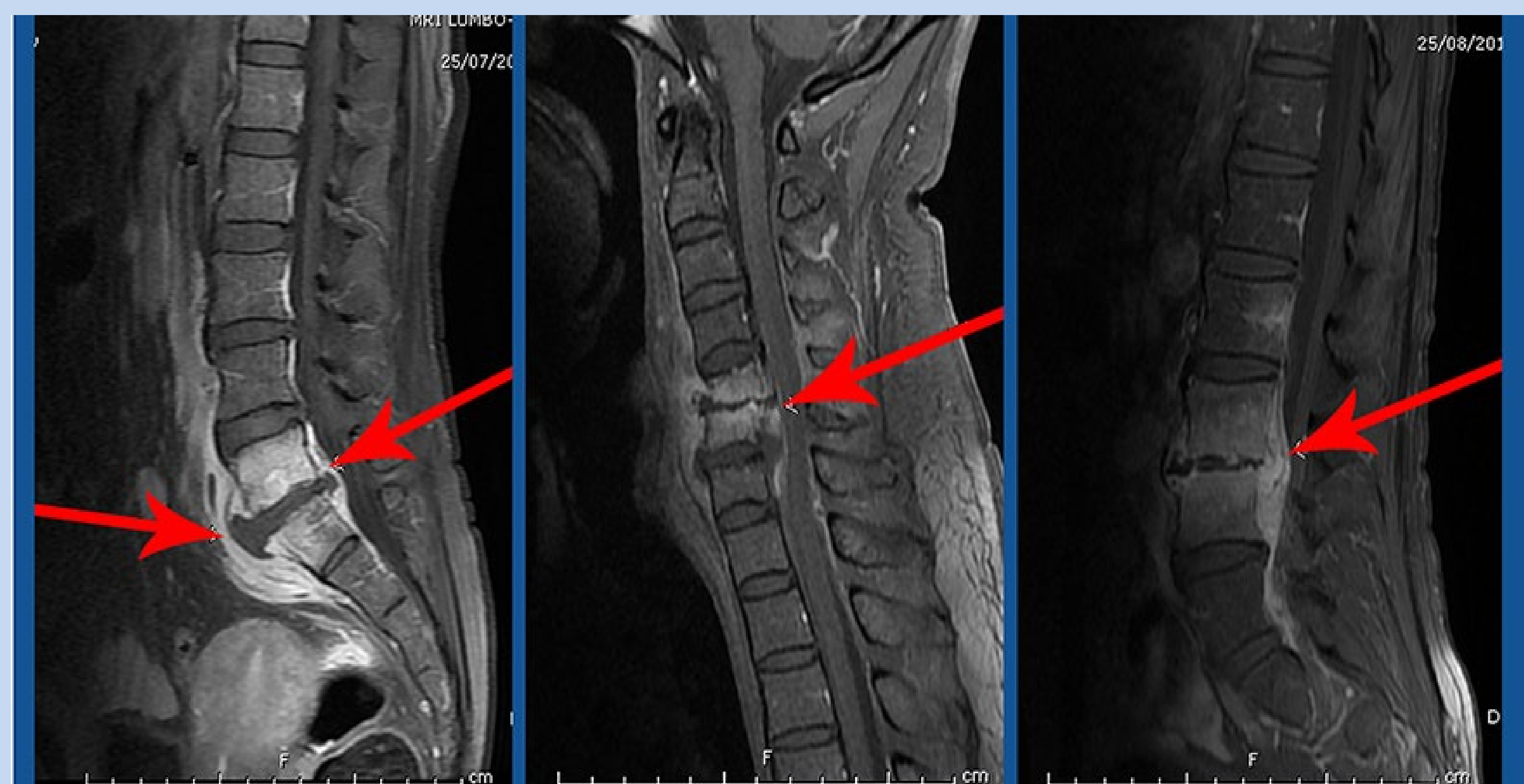


Fig 1: MRI pictures showing epidural abscess

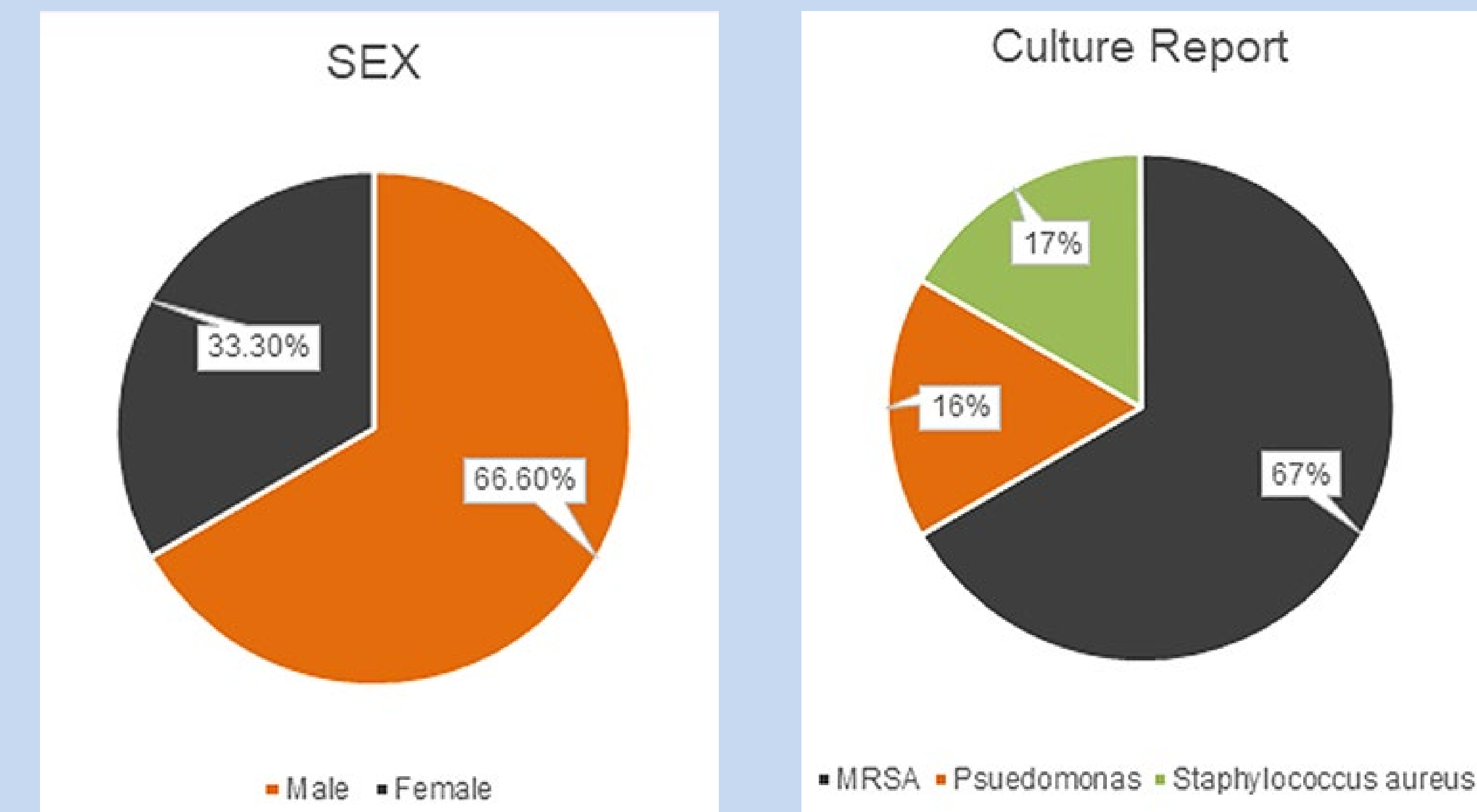


Fig 2: demographic data of the presented cases

CONCLUSION

Epidural abscess being a potentially life threatening situation, needing timely intervention, these cases should alert the ED Physicians to look into as one of the Red Flags of recent onset back ache in post dengue patients.

REFERENCES

- Dengue haemorrhagic fever or dengue shock syndrome in children. BMJ Clin. Evid. 2009;0917.
- Brain involvement in Dengue fever. J. Clin. Neurosci. 8, 63–65. 10.1054/jocn.2000.0735
- Oculomotor nerve palsy in dengue encephalitis-a rare presentation. Indian J. Med. Res. 140, 793–794.
- Neurological complications of dengue virus infection. Lancet Neurol. 12, 906–919. 10.1016/S1474-4422(13)70150-9
- Acute disseminated encephalomyelitis in classic dengue. Rev. Soc. Bras. Med. Trop. 40, 236–238. 10.1590/S0037-86822007000200019
- Prospective case - control study of encephalopathy in children with dengue hemorrhagic fever. Am. J. Trop. Med. Hyg. 65, 848–851. 10.4269/ajtmh.2001.65.848
- Acute transverse myelitis associated with dengue viral infection. J. Spinal Cord Med.
- Guillain-Barre syndrome: an unusual complication of dengue fever.
- de Sousa A. M., Alvarenga M. P., Alvarenga R. M. (2014). A cluster of transverse myelitis following dengue virus infection in the Brazilian Amazon Region.
- Domingues R. B., Kuster G. W. (2014). Diagnosis and management neurologic manifestations associated with acute dengue virus infection.