



## MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

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### **Ministry Concerned With Misinformation of Shortage of Medicine.**

Contrary to media reports this morning, the Ministry of Health & Medical Services wishes to state that there is no out of stock of intravenous (IV) fluids in the country.

The Ministry have also stated on record in previous media interviews of the current global shortage of IV fluids which is expected to continue through 2025 with supply constraints.

The Ministry is doing its utmost best to ensure the timely supply to more than 200 healthcare facilities in the country.

The Ministry, through the Fiji Pharmaceutical & Biomedical Services (FPBS) had received 3000 units of IV fluids last week and another 4200 units is yet to be cleared by the Fiji Procurement Office (FPO).

FPBS have also placed continuous orders for IV fluids in the next few days.

The Fiji Centre for Communicable Disease Control (FCDC) records indicate that about 10 percent of dengue cases may develop severe disease which will require more specific and even intensive medical attention. These cases are the ones that need hospital admissions and will need to use of IV fluids and platelets for treatment.

Moreover, the recent dengue cases reported within Fiji has indicated that there are less severe cases and most of them are managed at the Sub-Divisional healthcare facilities.

In addition, the Ministry wishes to also clarify that HIV medication are also in stock.

As for the remarks made by the Fiji Medical Association president Dr Alipate Vakamocea, the Ministry is optimistic that the current supply of IV fluids is sufficient to meet the surge in Dengue Fever cases.

The Ministry is urging the Fiji Medical Association and the media to obtain factual information before misinforming the public on these crucial issues as it may cause panic and fear to members of the public.

In addition, the Ministry continues to urge members of the public to take ownership of their health and to clean their compounds and surroundings as this is one of most effective ways to keep your loved ones safe from Dengue.

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