About Acute Encephalitis Syndrome Surveillance

- Capture patient data generated from a three-tiered laboratory-based surveillance mechanism.
- Reported symptoms are compared to the AES case definition.
- If suspected cases meet the AES case definition, they are registered in the system.
- Lab samples collected at district lab are tested and sent to Apex and NIMHANS labs.
- Apex lab: the medical college laboratory with infrastructure to test for multiple pathogens. Each district hospital lab is linked to an Apex lab.
- NIMHANS lab: state of the art laboratory. Specializes in sophisticated laboratory tests for pathogens causing encephalitis and meningitis.

How does it work in DHIS2?

- DHIS2 is used to register the patients at the district hospital.
- Patients’ lab samples and the transport to Apex labs are captured as events.
- Lab results are captured as events at district, Apex, and NIMHANS labs.
- Data about patients’ hospitalization outcome and final diagnosis are entered at the level of district hospital.
- SMS alerts included in the system. The system sends specific alerts to specific groups of people for example at identification of a positive AES case via a confirmed lab result.
- To maintain compliance, alerts are generated on dispatch/acceptance of the specimen transported to the higher labs.