Chapter 7

Summary and Conclusion
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

- About 93.2% of the healthy population screened (n=190) in the study were positive for measles IgG. However, 6.8% were negative for IgG, highlighting the need for effective vaccination. The mean IgG Ab titre level of the healthy population was 1:40, which was determined as the baseline titre in the study population.

- Study of 28 acute measles patients revealed the prevailing incidence of measles in the region. Isolation was possible in six cases.

- Comparative study of banding patterns of MV and CDV antigen protein revealed a similarity in at-least one region (47kd).

- Samples from 168 patients (78.1%) screened for SSPE, showed significant titres of measles IgG Ab in both CSF and serum; while 192 patients (89.3%) were serum positive and CSF negative by ELISA.

- 164 patients (76.2%) were positive for IgG Ab in both CSF and serum; while 192 patients (89.3%) were serum positive and CSF negative by ELISA.

- The CSF / serum ratio of IgG Ab, in the 152 positive patients was 64, which is suggestive of SSPE.
The agreement rate ($\kappa$) between ELISA and IIF technique was 98.13%. The difference in sensitivity between the 2 techniques was not statistically significant.

Around 82% (138) of the SSPE patients diagnosed had a definite history of measles infection in the past and 12 (7%) had a history of vaccination. More than 80% of the SSPE patients fulfilled the Dyken's criteria. Myclonus, mental regression and decrease in scholastic performance, were the typical clinical findings predominant (> 80%) in the SSPE patients studied.

Of the 28 CSF samples screened, 16 were positive by RT-PCR for the specific $\text{N}$ protein genome of measles virus.

2 positive samples were PCR amplified and sequence analysis categorized the strains to be of the genotype A. To the best of the author's knowledge, this is the first report of SSPE genotyping in India, and is very relevant in understanding, the molecular epidemiology of the disease.