Global Health Histories Seminar 95

THURSDAY, 3 December 2015
| 12.30-14.00 CET | Library meeting room |

Dr. Karine Aasgaard Jansen
Umeå University, Sweden

Dr. Raman Velayudhan
Department of Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases
World Health Organization

Chikungunya

In this seminar, Dr Aasgaard Jansen will present the case of the 2005 to 2007 chikungunya epidemic in the Indian Ocean island and French overseas department (DOM) of Réunion. She will discuss how previous and more recent public health discourses and interventions against vector-borne diseases have contributed towards the stigmatisation of chikungunya and the development of alternative etiologies. The case prompts us to consider in what ways history and culture may influence conceptualisations of disease, and how this needs to be taken into account in order to limit the impact of epidemics on local communities.

Chikungunya continues to affect more countries since its re-emergence about a decade ago. Vector control remains the only available option to prevent and control its spread. Dr Velayudhan’s presentation will discuss the various options of vector control tools as well as some of the innovative tools in the pipeline which should address the need for sustained vector control. Impact of population movement, environmental changes, and the rise of insecticide resistance will also be discussed.

For more information, please contact: GHHistories@who.int