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## **Typhoid stays at 99**

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THE number of typhoid cases in the country has remained at 99 as the Ministry of Health is yet to conduct more tests on suspected cases.

These 99 cases come from the Central Division as well as the Western Division.

Deputy secretary Public Health Dr Jo Koroivueta said they did not conduct more tests in the weekend as officials were occupied with the tsunami warning that was issued for the country.

Dr Koroivueta said it was important that they verified the cases before releasing the numbers.

During the weekend, there were 30 suspected cases of typhoid.

These cases were from Waibasaga Village in Naitasiri, where the victims were reported to suffering from diarrhoea, which is a symptom of typhoid.

The number of typhoid cases is expected to rise in the coming weeks as Ministry of Health officials continue their inspections and investigations into communities where typhoid has been identified.

The inspections will also cover hygiene. It takes three to four days before the result of tests can be known.

Last week, officials from the ministry and the Fiji Red Cross visited some rural areas in the battle to eliminate the spread of typhoid.