CDC Responds to Zika

Zika 101

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What is Zika virus disease (Zika)?

- Disease spread primarily through the bite of an *Aedes* mosquito infected with Zika virus.
- Most people won’t even know they have Zika.
- Symptoms are mild and last for several days to a week.
Where has Zika virus been found?

- Before 2015, Zika outbreaks occurred in Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands.
- Currently outbreaks are occurring in many countries and territories.
How is Zika transmitted?

- Zika can be transmitted through:
  - Mosquito bites
  - From a mother to her unborn baby
  - Sexual contact
  - Blood transfusion
What are the symptoms?

The most common symptoms of Zika are:

– Fever
– Rash
– Joint pain
– Conjunctivitis (red eyes)
What are the symptoms?

- Other symptoms include:
  - Muscle pain
  - Headache
How does Zika virus affect people?

- Anyone who lives in or travels to an area where Zika virus is found and has not already been infected with Zika virus can get it.
- Most people infected with Zika won’t even know it.
- For those who do get sick, Zika is a mild illness.
How does Zika affect pregnant women?

- Zika virus can be passed from mother to fetus during pregnancy or during delivery.
How does Zika affect pregnant women?

- Zika infection in pregnancy is linked to microcephaly.
  - Microcephaly: birth defect in which a baby’s head is smaller than expected when compared to babies of the same sex and age.
  - Previous infection will not affect future pregnancies.
How does Zika affect pregnant women?

- No reports of virus spread through breastfeeding.
Does Zika cause Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)?

- We do not know if there is a connection between GBS and Zika virus infection.
- GBS is a rare disorder where a person’s own immune system damages the nerve cells, causing muscle weakness and sometimes paralysis.
Does Zika cause Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)?

- The Brazil Ministry of Health (MOH) is reporting an increased number of people affected with GBS.
- CDC is working with Brazil’s MOH to determine if having Zika makes getting GBS more likely.
How is Zika diagnosed?

- Diagnosis of Zika is based on a person’s recent travel history, symptoms, and results of blood tests.
- A blood test is the only way to confirm a Zika infection.
How is Zika diagnosed?

- Symptoms of Zika are similar to other illnesses spread through mosquito bites, like dengue and chikungunya.
How is Zika diagnosed?

- Your healthcare provider may order blood tests to look for several types of infections.
How is Zika treated?

- There is no specific medicine or vaccine for Zika virus.
How is Zika treated?

- Treat symptoms
  - Rest
  - Drink fluids to prevent dehydration
  - Take acetaminophen (Tylenol®) to reduce fever and pain
How is Zika treated?

- Protect yourself from mosquito bites. During the first week of illness, Zika virus can be found in blood for about a week. If a mosquito bites the person, it becomes infected and can pass the infection to others.
Zika is primarily transmitted through mosquito bites. Protect yourself.
STEP 1 Keep mosquitoes outside

- Keep mosquitoes out of your home or hotel.
  - Stay in places with air conditioning and with window/door screens.
STEP 1  Keep mosquitoes outside

- Keep mosquitoes out of your home or hotel.
  - Once a week, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out items that hold water, such as tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpots, or trash containers. Check inside and outside your home.
STEP 1  Keep mosquitoes outside

- Keep mosquitoes out of your home or hotel.
  - When traveling, use a bed net if air conditioned or screened rooms are not available or if sleeping outdoors.
STEP 2 Create a barrier between you and mosquitoes

- Cover up!
  - Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
STEP 2  Create a barrier between you and mosquitoes

- Treat clothing and gear
  - Use permethrin to treat clothing and gear or purchase permethrin-treated clothing and gear. Read product information to find out how long the protection will last.
STEP 2 Create a barrier between you and mosquitoes

- Treat clothing and gear
  - If treating items yourself, always follow the product instructions.
STEP 2 Create a barrier between you and mosquitoes

- Treat clothing and gear
  - Do not use permethrin products directly on skin.
STEP 3 Wear insect repellent

- Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents.
  - Repellents with DEET, picaridin, IR535, and some para-menthane-diol products provide long-lasting protection.
**STEP 3**  Wear insect repellent

- Always follow the product label instructions.
- Do not spray repellent on the skin under clothing.
- If also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen before applying insect repellent.
STEP 4  Protect your family

- For babies and children
  - Do not use insect repellents on babies younger than 2 months old.
  - Do not use products containing para-menthane-diol on children younger than 3 years old.
  - Do not use oil of lemon eucalyptus insect repellents on children younger than 3 years old.
STEP 4  Protect your family

- For babies and children
  - Cover crib, stroller, and baby carrier with mosquito netting.
STEP 4  Protect your family

- For babies and children
  - Do not apply onto hands, eyes, mouth, and cut or irritated skin.
  - Adults: Spray onto your hands and then apply to a child’s face.
STEP 5  Protect your partner

- Zika virus can be sexually transmitted by a man to his sex partners.
STEP 5  Protect your partner

- We do not know how long the virus can stay in the semen of men who have had Zika.
STEP 5  Protect your partner

- If your partner is pregnant, CDC recommends that men who have lived in or traveled to an area with Zika virus either use condoms the right way every time for vaginal, anal, and oral sex, or not have sex during the pregnancy.
STEP 6  Do your homework before traveling

- If you are pregnant, consider delaying travel to any area with Zika. If you must travel, talk to your healthcare provider before your trip.

- If you are trying to get pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider before you travel.
If you choose to travel, follow these steps to protect yourself and your family.
STEP 6  Do your homework before traveling

See the latest travel notices at:

wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-travel-information
What is CDC doing?

- Working with partners to:
  - Educate healthcare providers and the public about Zika.
  - Post travel notices and other travel-related guidance.
  - Provide state and territorial health laboratories with diagnostic tests.
What is CDC doing?

- Working with partners to:
  - Monitor and report cases.
  - Support mosquito control programs both in the United States and around the world.
  - Conducting studies to learn more about Zika and microcephaly and Guillain-Barré syndrome.
For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.