**Current Zika Outbreak**

The mosquitoes that can become infected and spread Zika live in many parts of the world, including parts of the United States. **Currently there are no local transmitted cases of Zika Virus in the U.S.** Countries in Africa, Asia, and Pacific Islands, South & Central America as well as the Caribbean Islands are associated with endemic Zika and have reported active local cases.

**If traveling visit** [**http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information**](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information)**.**

**Who is at risk?** Zika infection during pregnancy can cause fetuses to have a birth defect of the brain called microcephaly. Other problems have been detected among fetuses and infants infected with Zika virus before birth, such as defects of the eye, hearing deficits, and impaired growth. There have also been increased reports of Guillain-Barré syndrome, an uncommon sickness of the nervous system, in areas affected by Zika.

**Birth Defects**

**What is Zika Virus?**

Zika virus disease is caused by the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito. Zika virus is a member of the *Flaviviridae* virus family. It was first isolated in 1947 from the Zika Forest of Uganda. Zika virus is related to other arboviruses such as dengue, yellow fever, and West Nile.

Vectors:

* *Aedes aegypti*
* *Aedes* *albopictus*

How does it spread?

* From the bite of an infected Aedes mosquito
* During sex with a man infected with Zika.
* From a pregnant woman to her fetus during pregnancy or around the time of birth.
* Through blood transfusion (likely but not confirmed).

**Symptoms:**

The most common symptoms of Zika are

* fever,
* rash,
* joint pain, and
* conjunctivitis (red eyes).

Symptoms are usually mild lasting for 2-7 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. People usually don’t get sick enough to go to the hospital and rarely die.



**Zika Virus:**



**How to prevent Zika:**

There is no vaccine to prevent Zika. The best way to prevent the spread of diseases by mosquitoes is to protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites by:

**What to do if you have Zika:**

There is no specific medicine to treat Zika.

Treat the symptoms:

1. Get plenty of rest. 2) Drink fluids to prevent dehydration. 3) Take medicine such as acetaminophen to reduce fever and pain. 4) Do not take aspirin or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.



Sources:

1) <https://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/pregwomen-uscases.html> 2)<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-travel-information> 3)<http://www.who.int/features/qa/zika/en/> 4)<http://www.cdc.gov/ncezid/>

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