



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**

DepEd MEMORANDUM  
No. **165**, s. 2016

30 SEP 2016

**ANTI-ZIKA VIRUS CAMPAIGN**

To: Undersecretaries  
Assistant Secretaries  
Bureau and Service Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools Heads  
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) supports the **Anti-Zika Virus Campaign** being waged by the Department of Health (DOH). *Zika* is primarily transmitted through the bite of *aedes* mosquito. Sexual transmission has been reported in other countries. It presents a very mild illness but has caused neurologic defects (microcephaly) in babies born of infected mothers. The key to *Zika* prevention is heightened vigilance and stronger community efforts of every household for vector control.
2. On September 6, 2016, the DOH announced the first confirmed case of *Zika* in 2016 most likely due to local transmission since there was no history of travel to any affected country in two weeks.
3. The DOH has coordinated with local officials to intensify mosquito control efforts, including targeted fogging, destruction or elimination of mosquito breeding sites, and mosquito precautions to be observed by travelers, as well as residents. These include the use of approved insect repellents, wearing of clothing that prevents skin exposure to mosquito bites and use of mosquito bed nets. The same measures will also protect us from dengue and *chikungunya*.
4. Any person who manifests skin rash with any of the following: fever, red eyes, or joint pains should seek consultation at government health facility. All pregnant women are advised to consult a doctor anytime.
5. In the face of alarming developments, this Department deems it urgent to address *Zika* virus infection through dissemination of proper information and coordination with health authorities for vector control measures in and around schools and reiterates DepEd Memorandum No. 252, s. 2009 entitled *Preventing Dengue H-Fever in Schools*, and other previous issuances to protect the school populace from the day bites of *aedes aegypti* mosquito which proliferates at a fast rate during the rainy months.
6. Enclosed is the DOH Health Advisory for reference.
7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

**LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES**  
Secretary

Encl.:

As stated

Reference:

DepEd Memorandum No. 252, s. 2009

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

BUREAUS AND OFFICES

CAMPAIGN

HEALTH EDUCATION

SCHOOLS

STRAND: Governance and Operations

APA/R-DM- Anti Zika Virus Campaign  
0676/September 16, 2016

# ZIKA VIRUS

## Key facts

- Zika virus infection is a mosquito-borne disease caused by a flavivirus. This occurs in tropical countries with large mosquito population.

## Transmission

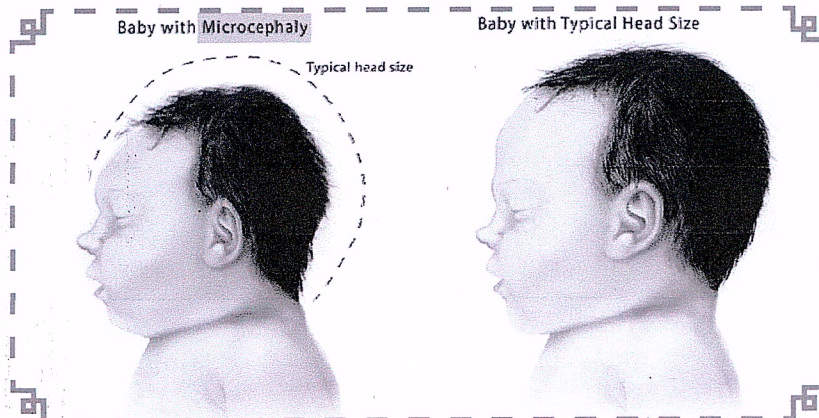
- Zika virus is transmitted to people through the bite of an infected mosquito from the Aedes genus, mainly Aedes aegypti in urban areas and Aedes albopictus in rural areas.
- Aedes bite aggressively during the day.
- This is the same mosquito that transmits Dengue and Chikungunya.
- Zika virus can also be transmitted through sex carrying Zika virus unprotected.
- Zika virus has been detected in blood, urine, amniotic fluids, semen, saliva as well as body fluids found in the brain and spinal cord.

## Signs and Symptoms

- Common symptoms include fever, conjunctivitis, and skin rash.
- Other symptoms include headache, muscle pain, joint pain, pain behind the eyes, and vomiting.
- The illness is usually mild and self-limiting with symptoms lasting for 2-7 days.

## Complication

- Neurological type of complication: Guillain-Barre' syndrome which is the sudden weakening of muscles.
- Neonatal malformation: Microcephaly which is a condition where a baby's head is smaller than those of other babies of the same age and sex.



## Prevention and Treatment

- Avoid infection by preventing mosquito bites.
  - Use insect repellants.
  - Use window and door screens.
  - Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants or permethrin-treated clothing.
  - Once a week, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out items that hold water, such as tires, buckets, planters, toys, or trash containers.
- People sick with Zika virus should get plenty of rest, drink enough fluids, and treat pain and fever with common medicines.
- People with signs and symptoms of Zika virus infection should undergo diagnostic test (serology)
- If symptoms persists, they should seek medical care and advice immediately to the nearest health facility.





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