What is Zika?

Zika is a virus transmitted by the Aedes mosquito, which also transmits dengue and chikungunya.

Mild fever
Skin rash
Conjunctivitis
Headache and joint pain
Onset is usually 2-7 days after the mosquito bite
1 in 4 people with Zika infection develops symptoms

How is Zika infection prevented?

To prevent mosquito bites that transmit Zika:

Cover skin with long-sleeve clothing, trousers and hats
Use insect repellent as recommended by health authorities
Sleep protected by mosquito nets
Use screens or mosquito nets in windows and doors to reduce contact with mosquitoes

Is there a treatment?

There is no vaccine or specific drug against this virus. Only pain and fever can be treated.

Patients with symptoms of Zika infection should:

Get plenty of bed rest
Drink plenty of fluids
Take medicine to relieve fever and pain

If symptoms worsen or complications develop, see a doctor immediately.

Zika can cause:

- Mild fever
- Skin rash
- Conjunctivitis
- Headache and joint pain

Controlling the breeding sites of Aedes mosquitoes reduces the likelihood of transmission of Zika, chikungunya, and dengue.