

Zika Virus and the Blood Supply: our Newest Crisis

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History of Zika Virus

Which of the following organisms was discovered most recently?

- a. Chikungunya
- b. Dengue
- c. Zika
- d. HIV
- e. Chagas' parasite



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Answer = HIV

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History of Zika Virus

Which of the following organisms was discovered most recently?

- a. Chikungunya 1955
- b. Dengue 1789
- c. Zika 1947
- d. HIV 1981
- e. Chagas' parasite 1909

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Infection with Zika Virus

80% have no signs or symptoms Symptoms: fever, rash, joint pain, conjunctivitis, muscle aches, headache Incubation time = few days to one week Severity is very mild Sickness lasts a few days to a week No vaccine Treatment = rest, fluids, anti-pyretics Avoid exposure to mosquitoes!

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Spread of Zika Virus

Mosquito bites

Sexual contact from men to partners (up to 62 days) Probable transfusion-transmission

Mother to unborn child

Risk of birth defects

Transmission through breast milk not reported



Importance of Zika Virus

Why Zika is in the news now:

Recent spread to the Western Hemisphere No one immune in these areas Mosquito (*Aedes aegypti*) present in tropical areas Rampant spread Worldwide air travel in hours Concern about pregnant women and birth defects Report of sexual transmission in U.S.

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Areas of Zika Active Transmission

As of 3-22-16:

Americas:

 Aruba, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Curacao, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Martinique, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Saint Martin, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sint Maarten, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, US Virgin Islands, Venzuela

Oceania/Pacific Islands:

- American Samoa, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Samoa, Tonga Africa:
- Cape Verde









From Monaghan, Morin et al. PLOS Current Outbreaks, March 16, 2016





Transfusion-Transmission of Zika

Transfusion-associated Zika virus reported in Brazil

December 18, 2015

The director of the Hematology Division of the Blood Center at the university of Campinas, Marcelo Addas Carvalho, said that a patient was infected by Zika virus in March after receiving a blood transfusion from a asymptomatic donor.

According to Carvalho, the donor, a 52-year old man of Sumaré, about 118 km from Sao Paulo, donated blood at the Blood Center of Unicamp without knowing he was infected. Three days later he became symptomatic.

Both donor and recipient have since recovered.

Virus isolation and sequencing was performed by the Adolfo Lutz

Institute.

This is the first confirmed transfusion associated case in the country.

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AABB Bulletin #16-03 Feb 1, 2016

"Zika, Dengue, and Chikungunya Viruses" Recommendations:

- 1) "...implement self-deferral for travel to Mexico, the Caribbean, or Central or South America during the 28 days before donation..."
- "Donors who do not self-defer are asked to call the blood collection facility if they travelled to Mexico, the Caribbean, Central or South America, or other tropical areas and develop unexplained postdonation illness inclusive of two or more of the listed symptoms—common to Zika, dengue, and chikungunya virus infection—in the 14 days following donation.

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AABB Bulletin #16-03

Why these actions?

- -- Will take too long to put formal questions in place -- Will more than cover the suspected infectious
- period
- -- Will also cover for dengue and chikungunya
- -- There is no donor test for Zika

"It is expected to result in the loss of approximately 2.25% of otherwise acceptable donors during the winter months." Probably higher in Texas – up to 5% or more.

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FDA Guidance Document 2-16-16

IF NO ACTIVE MOSQUITO SPREAD:

Donor educational material (must self-defer): Sexual contact risk Signs and symptoms

Donor questionnaire: Travel risk

IF LOCAL ACTIVE MOSQUITO SPREAD:

Must do pathogen reduction, testing or import blood. If still collecting, must add questions on sexual contact and signs and symptoms

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Subsequent Regulatory Documents

AABB Bulletin #16-04 3-1-16 To match FDA rules

FDA guidance document on HCT/P 3/1/16 must defer donors for 6 months for tissue and stem cells

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