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Zika Kits

The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention are proactively working to enhance surveillance, detection and prevention of Zika virus on Guam. The CDC has invested in preventive measures through the delivery of over 3,000 Zika Preparedness Kits (ZPK). The ZPKs are intended for pregnant women only, free of charge. The items included in the ZPK can help protect a person from mosquito bites.

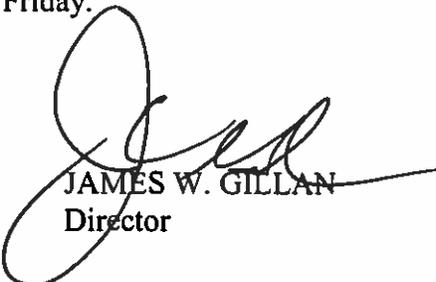
To date, there has been no case of a person infected with Zika virus reported on Guam. Zika virus is spread to people primarily by the bite of an infected *Aedes* species mosquito (*Ae. aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus*). An infected pregnant woman can pass Zika virus to her fetus during pregnancy or around the time of birth, and a person with Zika virus can pass it to his or her sex partners. There is no evidence that Zika is spread through touching, coughing or sneezing.

There is no vaccine to prevent Zika virus disease. Zika virus prevention includes:

- preventing mosquito transmission;
- preventing Zika infection during pregnancy; and
- preventing sexual transmission

The DPHSS is coordinating with health care professionals who provide prenatal care to distribute the ZPKs over the next several weeks. They will be afforded an inventory of ZPKs which consists of a bed net, insect repellent, condoms, standing water treatment tabs, and permethrin spray. All recipients of the ZPKs are advised to read and follow the product label instructions.

For more information, please contact Tricia Shimizu, Strategic National Stockpile Coordinator at 735-7306 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday.


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