

# U.S Citizens On Alert Of The Zika Virus

By Leslie Arriaga

To begin with, the Zika virus is transmitted through an Aedes species mosquito. The first symptoms of Zika are fever, joint pain, and conjunctivitis, a special word for red eyes. People who have been infected with Zika hardly notice they have been infected until more dangerous symptoms begin to show. Yet, there is no cure for Zika.

Anyway, back to the topic, ever since the Zika virus spread to Brazil and Mexico, the threat that the Zika virus would spread into the U.S set panic to many of the citizens in our nation. That is why our citizens should take awareness of this threat. First of all, citizens should be concerned about the Zika infection because there have been many travelers who have traveled to Mexico, U.S. and other places where Zika has taken control of, and many of those travelers have brought the infection back to the U.S. A second reason why U.S citizens should be aware of the Zika infection would be because the Zika infection is spreading fast, and since it is on the borders of Mexico and the U.S, with any odd movement the Zika infection could spread into the U.S and that could spread panic to the citizens living here. A third reason why U.S citizens should be aware of the Zika virus, although it is in Mexico, would be because citizens here in the U.S have family members in Mexico, Brazil, The Pacific Islands and other places that may have been infected.

Relating to where Zika was found, Zika was first discovered in 1947 and named after a forest full of the Zika infection, in Uganda Africa. However in 1952, the first human infections discovered were detected and from then on the Zika virus nearly expanded to the whole world. “Before 2007, at least 14 cases of Zika had been documented although other cases were likely to have occurred and were not reported. Because the symptoms of Zika are similar to those of other diseases, many have not recognized,” said the Centers For Control Prevention. Later on in May 2105, the Pan American Health Organization sent out an alert in Brazil, and on Feb 1, 2016, the World Health Organization warned other countries.

To conclude this article, I would like to restate the main facts and on a little more.

- First of all, the Zika virus is a threat to the U.S since the Zika infection is at the border of Mexico and with any odd move, even one mosquito could set panic to the our citizens.
- Second of all, U.S citizens should be concerned about this infection because many people here in the U.S have family members in the countries that have been infected. Of course these family members are very worried about their relatives.
- Last but not least, for those travelers that have traveled to Mexico and those other countries and many of those thousands of travelers may have brought the disease back to the U.S.

Although the Zika virus is a threat to the U.S, experts have provided tips to help prevent and infection on people who are in hard conditions.

- Wear long clothing such as long pants, sleeved shirts, scarves and gloves to keep the mosquito as far as possible.
- Stay in air-conditioned places or screened window protected homes. That will make sure that the mosquito stays outside.
- Sleep in a protected mosquito bed net if you are over-seas or if you are sleeping outside. Try to as well put mosquito repellent before you go to bed.

But remember to follow the insect repellent instructions and do not use on children under two years of age. To conclude everything, U.S citizens should take this Zika virus as if it were in the United States. I am saying this because many cases have been recently found in New York, and that is a danger to the whole U.S although it is not physically here in our country.