

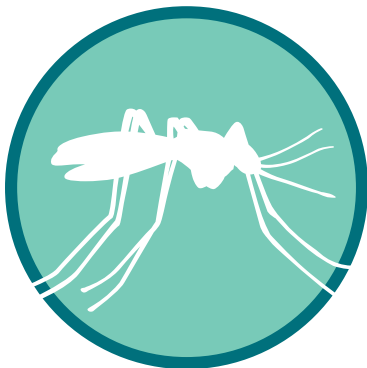
ZIKA VIRUS

SHOULD SOUTH AFRICANS BE CONCERNED?

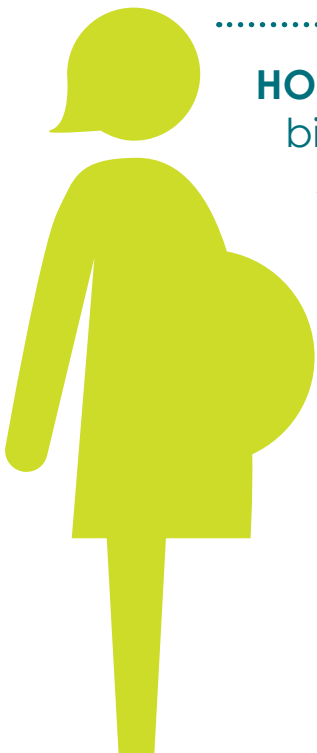
YES

HOWEVER, THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR PANIC AS YET. ONLY ONE CASE OF THE ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED IN SOUTH AFRICA SO FAR. READ MORE ABOUT THIS [HERE](#)

HERE ARE THE FACTS:



- Zika virus is transmitted by mosquitoes, in particular, but not exclusively, *Aedes aegypti*
- The *Aedes aegypti* mosquito has been in South Africa for many decades
- The virus is not transmitted from human to human but through the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito
- The best form of prevention if you are travelling to an area with Zika is protection against mosquito bites



HOWEVER, knowledge of the link between Zika and birth defects is evolving and until more is known, special precautions for pregnant women are recommended:

- Pregnant women in any trimester should consider postponing travel to any area where the Zika virus transmission is ongoing. If you must travel to one of these areas, consult with your doctor first and strictly follow steps to prevent mosquito bites during your trip.
- Pregnant women who have recently travelled to an area with Zika should talk to their doctor about their travel even if they don't feel sick. It is especially important that they see a doctor if they develop a fever, rash, joint pain, or red eyes during their trip or within two weeks after travelling to a country where Zika has been reported.

For a current list of areas with Zika, visit wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-travel-information

FOR THE AVERAGE SOUTH AFRICAN AT HOME, THERE IS NO NEED TO PANIC AT ALL AT THIS TIME

For more information on Zika Virus Outbreak visit:

www.nicd.ac.za
www.cdc.gov/zika
www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/zika/en



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