Zika is a virus transmitted by the Aedes mosquito, which also transmits dengue and chikungunya. Mild fever, skin rash, conjunctivitis, headache and joint pain are common symptoms of Zika. Onset is usually 2-7 days after the mosquito bite. 1 in 4 people with Zika infection develop symptoms. There is no vaccine or specific drug against this virus. Only pain and fever can be treated. Get plenty of bed rest, drink plenty of fluids, take medicine to relieve fever and pain, wear clothing that covers arms and legs, use mosquito nets when napping, use insect repellent as recommended by health authorities, sleep protected by mosquito nets. At least once a week, empty, clean, turn over, cover and/or dispose of containers that can hold water, such as tires, buckets, and flower pots, both inside and outside of dwellings to eliminate mosquito breeding sites. Use screens or mosquito nets in windows and doors to reduce contact with mosquitoes. Controlling the breeding sites of Aedes mosquitoes reduces the likelihood of transmission of Zika, chikungunya, and dengue. What is Zika?

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
A very small number of people can develop complications after becoming ill with the virus
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.
- At least once a week, empty, clean, turn over, cover and/or dispose of containers that can hold water, such as tires, buckets, and flower pots, both inside and outside of dwellings to eliminate mosquito breeding sites.
- 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.
- Use mosquito nets when napping.
- Wear clothing that covers arms and legs.

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