## Environmental Management and Personal Protection for the Protection of Zika

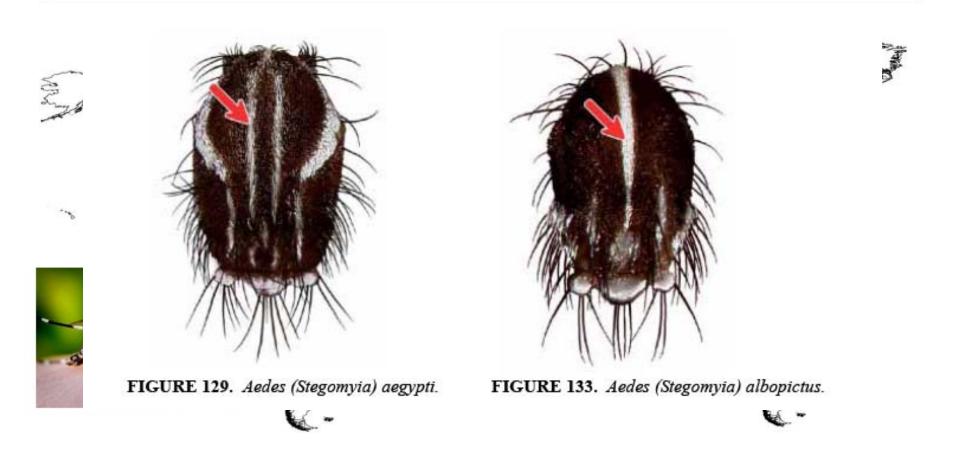
KIM BAUTISTA
VECTOR CONTROL CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

Zika is primarily spread through the bite of an infected *Aedes aegypti* or *Aedes albopictus* mosquito.

Both Mosquitoes are found throughout the country



# Distribution of potential CHIK vectors in the Americas



Aedes aegypti

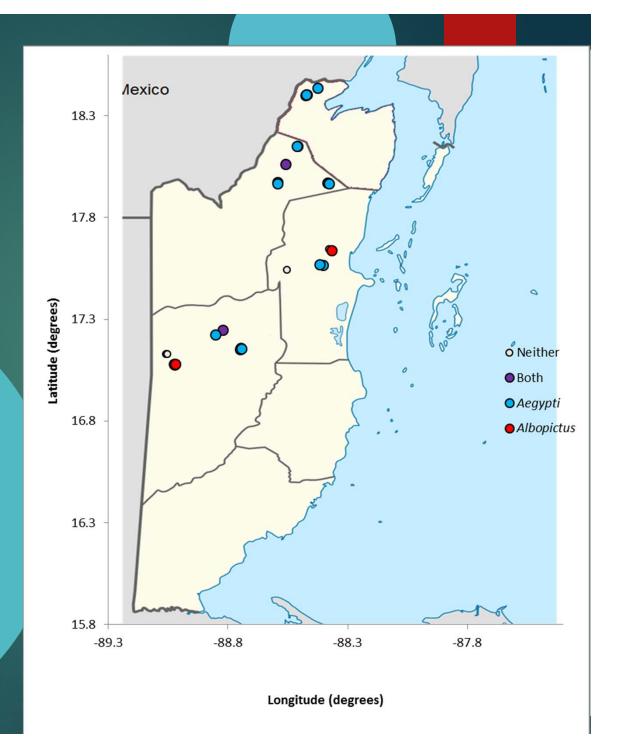
Aedes albopictus

2014 Aedes surveillance in Western, Central and Northern Belize

Aedes aegypti dominant vector

Aedes albopictus found in many rural communities – mostly outdoor biter and target humans less

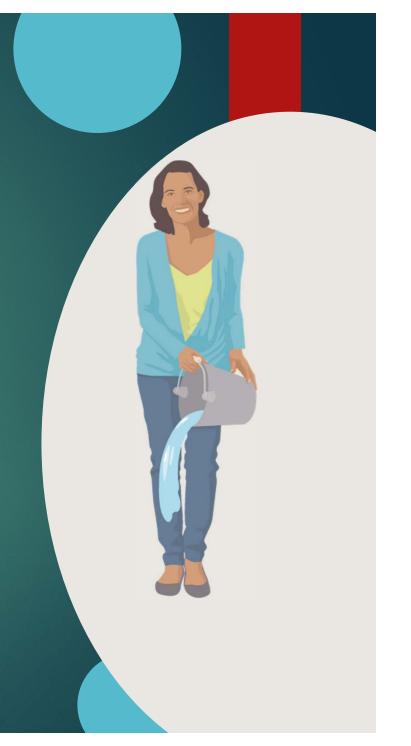
Aedes flight range can range from 50 – 500 yards from its source but tends to keep within a short range of about 50 – 150 yards



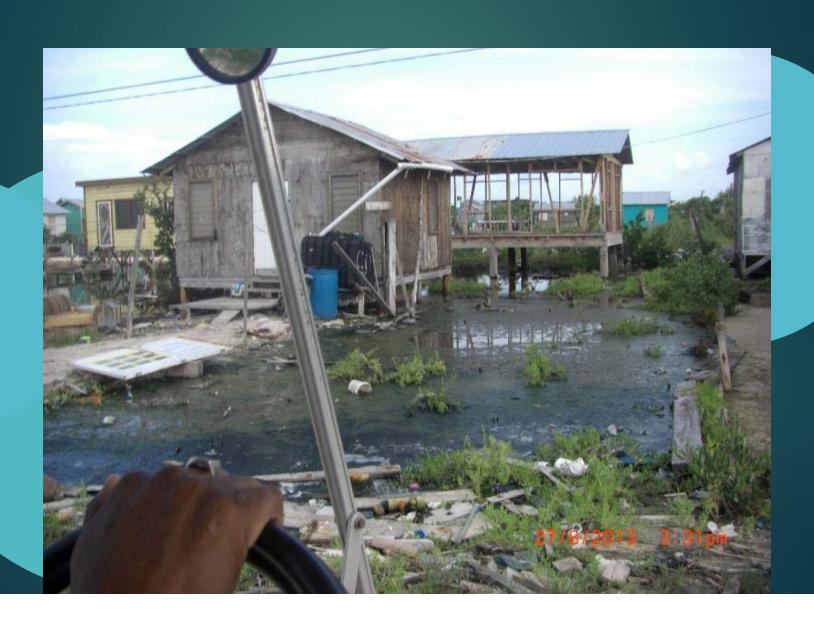
# WHAT TO TELL PATIENTS ABOUT MOSQUITO BITE PROTECTION

#### **Control mosquitoes outside**

- Here's what you can do to help control mosquitoes <u>outside</u> your home
  - Once a week, empty and turn over containers which may hold water
  - If containers which hold water are not needed then throw them away
  - Cover drums and other water storage containers.
  - If you have a septic tank be sure to repair cracks or holes
  - You can throw old cooking oil into stagnant drains and water in or near your yard



## ...BUT WHAT ABOUT WHEN THOSE MESSAGES AREN'T SO PRACTICAL?





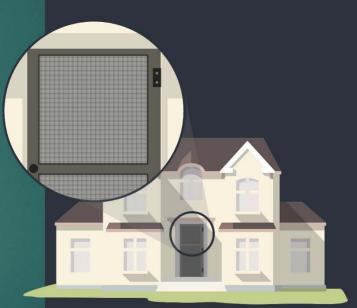


## Mosquito bite protection

 Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.

Keep windows and doors screened if possible

Sleep under a mosquito bed net



#### Mosquito bite protection

- Use insect repellent with active ingredient DEET
- Insect repellent with 15% DEET will last
   about 3 5 hours per application

Always follow the product label instructions.

Do not spray repellent on the skin under clothing.

If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen before applying insect repellent.

Do note use repellent on babies under 2 months old





Encourage pregnant women from high risk areas to take advantage of free personal protective items from the Ministry of Health



#### KEEP DRUMS AND WATER HOLDING CONTAINERS COVERED



GET RID OF UNWANTED THINGS AROUND YOUR YARD WHICH HOLD WATER















For more information visit your nearest health facility and converse with your health professional.

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https://www.facebook.com/dhsbelize

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## "NOH GET BITE"



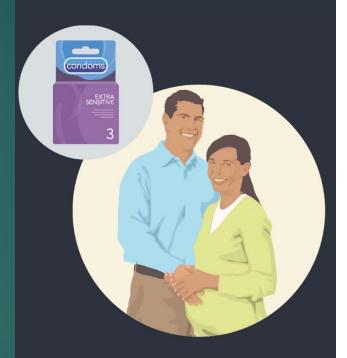


#### **About sexual transmission**

- Zika virus can be passed through sex, even if the infected person does not have symptoms at the time.
- Sex includes vaginal, anal, and oral sex, and the sharing of sex toys.

Condoms and other barriers\* can reduce the chance of getting Zika from sex.

Not having sex can eliminate the risk of getting Zika from sex.



<sup>\*</sup> Barriers include male and female condoms and dental dams.

## What we do not know about sexual transmission

 We do not know how often people with Zika who never develop symptoms pass Zika through sex.

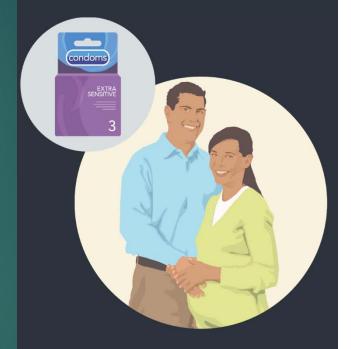
We do not know if sexual transmission of Zika virus poses a different risk of birth defects than mosquito-borne transmission.



# Preventing or reducing the chance of sexual transmission for couples who are pregnant

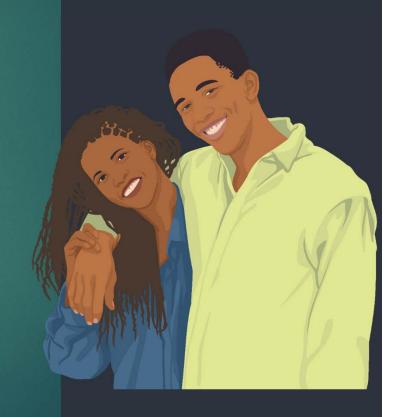
- Not having sex can eliminate the risk of getting Zika from sex.
- Condoms can reduce the chance of getting Zika from sex.

Pregnant couples with a partner who lives in or recently traveled to an area with Zika should use condoms every time they have sex or not have sex during pregnancy.



# Non-pregnant couples with a partner who traveled to an area with Zika

- For non-pregnant couples with a partner who has <u>recently traveled</u> to an area with Zika
  - At least 8 weeks after a Zika diagnosis or start of symptoms if the traveling partner is female or if the traveling partner (male or female) has no symptoms.
  - ► At least 6 months after a Zika diagnosis or start of symptoms if the traveling partner is male. This long extended period is because Zika stays in semen longer than in other body fluids.



### Travelling when Pregnant...

Should not travel to areas with Zika (difficult in the region).

If they must travel to areas with Zika, tell pregnant patients to protect themselves from mosquito bites and take steps to prevent sexual transmission during and after travel.



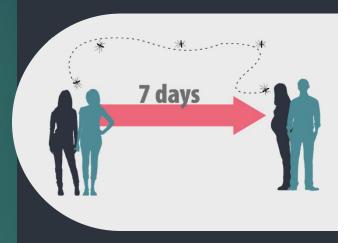


#### Patients who test positive

 Protect from mosquito bites during the first week of illness, when Zika virus can be found in blood.

The virus can be passed from an infected person to a mosquito through bites.

An infected mosquito can spread the virus to other people.



- Vector control has only about 50 field officers and they work between 8am 5pm when most people are at work...
  - within the health system may the only opportunity to pass on at least some of these preventative measures.....

# ...in the meantime we will do the rest















## Clean Up Campaigns w/ Support of Municipalities





# Clean Up Campaigns through Community Engagement



## Zika Awareness Campaigns







#### Conclusion

- The importance of fighting this vector collectively must be sold to citizens
- Dengue is still rampant in most areas of the country and remains potentially fatal – this message must not be lost amidst the fears of Zika
- WE EITHER WORK TOGETHER OR CONTINUE TO FACE AN UPHILL STRUGGLE BEING FOUGHT BY JUST OVER 50 FIELD OFFICERS COUNTRYWIDE!