

Zika virus infection: what should we not forget?

Viroj Wiwanitkit

Department of Biological Science, Joseph Ayobabalola University, Ikeji-Arakeji, Nigeria

The recent publication on Zika virus infection is very interesting [1]. As noted by Korzeniewski et al. [1], the risk of worldwide epidemic of this infection can be expected and visiting the big event, Summer Olympic Games, can be the risk. As is already known, the disease can have a wide spectrum of clinical presentations and this can result in diagnostic difficulty [2, 3]. However, there are some additional concerns that should not be forgotten. First, the disease can be rapidly transmitted. The existence in the new setting due to the good air and sea transport can be expected. Hence, the updated epidemiological map is needed for fighting with disease. The new modes of transmission of the disease are also important. The vertical transmission and sexual transmission as well are the two common atypical modes of transmission that should be kept in mind [4]. Furthermore, although it is not proved, the risk of disease transmission by body fluid and respiratory droplet contact is the big concern at present [5, 6].

REFERENCES

1. Korzeniewski K, Juszcak D, Zwolińska E. Zika – another threat on the epidemiological map of the world. *Int Marit Health* 2016; 67: 31–37. doi: 10.5603/IMH.2016.0007.
2. Joob B, Wiwanitkit V. Zika virus infection and dengue: a new problem in diagnosis in a dengue-endemic area. *Ann Trop Med Public Health* 2015; 8: 145–146.
3. Wiwanitkit S, Wiwaitkit V. Afebrile, asymptomatic and non-thrombocytopenic Zika virus infection: don't miss it! *Asian Pac J Trop Med* 2016; doi: 10.1016/j.apjtm.2016.03.036
4. Burd I, Griffin D. The chasm between public health and reproductive research: what history tells us about Zika virus. *J Assist Reprod Genet* 2016; 33: 439–440.
5. Chan JF, Choi GK, Yip CC, Cheng VC, Yuen KY. Zika fever and congenital Zika syndrome: an unexpected emerging arboviral disease. *J Infect* 2016; 72: 507–524. doi: 10.1016/j.jinf.2016.02.011.
6. Olson CK, Iwamoto M, Perkins KM et al. Preventing transmission of Zika virus in labor and delivery settings through implementation of standard precautions, United States, 2016. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2016; 65: 290–292.