



# Under the Scope

Florida Department of Health in Indian River County



Summer  
2013

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## Recognizing Dengue & Preventing Local Spread

In recent weeks, locally acquired cases of dengue have been found in Martin, St. Lucie and Miami-Dade Counties.

Dengue has been largely absent from Florida for decades. However, it is very common in other tropical and sub-tropical areas of the world. Not surprisingly, dengue is the most frequent cause of acute febrile illness among US travelers returning from the Caribbean, Central and South America, and Asia. Due to frequent international travel of Florida residents, immigration and our proximity to endemic areas, Florida sees imported cases of dengue each year. If viremic, these individuals can infect local mosquito vectors (*Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*), leading to the potential for locally acquired human cases and outbreaks.

Recognition of the signs and symptoms of dengue is important not only for successful clinical management of cases, but to **prevent spread by local mosquitoes – by reporting suspected cases to the Health Department.**

Dengue fever (“Breakbone Fever”) is characterized by acute onset of high fever 3-14 days after the bite of an infected mosquito. Other symptoms include frontal headache, retro-orbital pain, myalgias, arthralgias and rash. Patients may also have anorexia and nausea. Acute symptoms usually subside in about 1 week, but weakness, malaise and anorexia can persist for several weeks. The disease is often misdiagnosed because the symptoms are similar to influenza and other viruses. More detailed information for health care providers can be found at [http://www.myfloridaeh.com/medicine/arboviral/pdfs/EducationalMaterials/Dengue\\_practitioners.pdf](http://www.myfloridaeh.com/medicine/arboviral/pdfs/EducationalMaterials/Dengue_practitioners.pdf).

**Timely laboratory testing of suspect cases is essential to detecting and preventing local outbreaks. If you suspect dengue, contact DOH-Indian River to make arrangements testing arrangements.**

### Dengue can be prevented:

- **Drain** standing water in artificial and natural containers around the home to stop mosquitoes from multiplying;
- **Cover** your skin with clothing and use mosquito repellent during daylight hours and twilight (mosquito vectors of dengue are daytime biters!); and
- **Cover** doors and windows with screens to keep mosquitoes out.

For more information on mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases contact Florida Department of Health in Indian River County (772-794-7440, -7472) or Indian River Mosquito Control District (<http://irmosquito.com/irmcd-web/index.php>) (772-562-2393), or visit the Florida Department of Health Mosquito-borne Diseases website (<http://www.myfloridaeh.com/medicine/arboviral/index.html>).

**Selected Reportable Diseases/Conditions, Jan 1, 2013 - July 31, 2013 with 3-year Comparison**

**Indian River County**

Cases (rate per 100,000 population)	Florida		Indian River County	
	2013 YTD	2013 YTD	2012 YTD	2011 YTD
<b>Enteric Diseases</b>				
Campylobacteriosis	1,500 (7.7)	25 (17.4)	22 (15.6)	7 (5.0)
Cryptosporidiosis	190 (1.0)	7 (4.9)	4 (2.8)	5 (3.6)
Cyclosporiasis	32 (0.2)	0	0	0
<i>Escherichia coli</i> , Shiga toxin producing	267 (1.4)	0	1 (0.7)	1 (0.7)
Giardiasis	594 (3.1)	12 (8.4)	6 (4.3)	7 (5.0)
Salmonellosis	2,745 (14.1)	20 (13.9)	35 (24.9)	20 (14.4)
Shigellosis	403 (2.1)	1 (0.7)	49 (34.8)	1 (0.7)
<i>Vibrio alginolyticus</i>	23 (0.1)	0	1 (0.7)	0
<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	23 (0.1)	0	0	1 (0.7)
<i>Vibrio vulnificus</i>	10 (0.05)	0	0	1 (0.7)
<b>Vector Borne, Zoonoses</b>				
Dengue Fever	68 (0.4)	1 (0.7)	0	0
Lyme Disease	66 (0.3)	2 (1.4)	0	0
Malaria	32 (0.2)	0	0	1 (0.7)
Rabies, Animal	61 (0.3)	0	0	1 (0.7)
Rabies, Possible Human Exposure	1,585 (8.2)	15 (10.5)	7 (5.0)	12 (8.6)
<b>CNS &amp; Invasive Diseases</b>				
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> (invasive disease)	180 (0.9)	0	0	2 (1.4)
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> , invasive disease, drug resistant	358 (1.8)	2 (1.4)	0	1 (0.7)
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> , invasive disease, susceptible	405 (2.1)	3 (2.1)	2 (1.4)	1 (0.7)
Streptococcal disease, invasive, Group A	175 (0.9)	3 (2.1)	2 (1.4)	2 (1.4)
<b>Vaccine Preventable</b>				
Pertussis	348 (1.8)	4 (2.8)	0	0
Varicella	410 (2.1)	2 (1.4)	6 (4.3)	7 (5.0)
<b>Viral Hepatitis</b>				
Hepatitis A	62 (0.3)	0	0	2 (1.4)
Hepatitis B (+HBsAg in pregnant women)	315 (1.6)	1 (0.7)	2 (1.4)	0
Hepatitis B, Acute	205 (1.1)	2 (1.4)	1 (0.7)	0
Hepatitis B, Chronic	2,755 (14.2)	10 (7.0)	10 (7.1)	5 (3.6)
Hepatitis C, Acute	141 (0.7)	0	1 (0.7)	0
Hepatitis C, Chronic	14,516 (74.8)	106 (73.9)	82 (58.3)	79 (56.9)
Hepatitis D	1 (0.01)	1 (0.7)	0	0
<b>HIV / AIDS*</b>				
HIV	2,553 (13.3)	7 (4.9)	4 (2.8)	11 (7.9)
AIDS	1,389 (7.2)	5 (3.5)	3 (2.1)	5 (3.5)
<b>STDs*</b>				
Chlamydia	33,429 (174.0)	217 (153.4)	210 (150.1)	211(151.9)
Gonorrhea	8,417 (43.8)	29 (20.5)	61 (43.6)	64(46.1)
Infectious Syphilis	568 (3.0)	0	0	2 (1.4)
<b>Others</b>				
Carbon Monoxide poisoning	106 (0.6)	0	1 (0.7)	0
Lead poisoning	322 (1.7)	1 (0.7)	2 (1.4)	1 (0.7)
Legionellosis	136 (0.7)	0	1 (0.7)	0
Pesticide-related illness or injury	46 (0.2)	0	2 (1.4)	1 (0.7)
Tuberculosis*	228 (1.2)	2 (1.4)	1 (0.7)	0

\*2013 data are provisional and subject to change; YTD as of 05/31/2013