

A letter to foreign workers

Dear friends,

Welcome to Taiwan! To ensure your health and the health of others, we are providing you with information on Zika prevention for your reference.

Zika virus infection is spread through the bite of an infected mosquito or sexual intercourse and vertical infection from mother to child. At present, the primary Zika-affected regions include Central and South America, Southeast Asia, and Oceania, and Zika cases have been reported in Thailand, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Indonesia. Classic Zika infection symptoms include fever, headache, joint pain, rashes and conjunctivitis. In general, adults only experience mild symptoms, but pregnant women infected with Zika virus may give birth to babies that are stillborn or have microcephaly.

Although 80% of the Zika patients do not develop symptoms, they can still spread the virus. Therefore, to prevent infection, please take precautions against mosquito bites. Other prevention include using a condom during sex and delaying pregnancy plans. If you develop symptoms, please ask for your employer's assistance in seeking medical attention, and remember to inform the doctor about where you have lived.

We care about your health, and will provide appropriate medical treatment to patients with Zika infection who voluntarily report their cases and seek medical treatment. Your cooperation will not affect your right to work in Taiwan. We seek your cooperation in preventing Zika transmission.

Sincerely yours,

Centers for Disease Control and Workforce Development Agency