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Take Preventive Measures outside Your Home to Eliminate Mosquito Breeding Places

The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS), along with partner agencies, and the Guam community, continue efforts to mitigate the spread of the dengue virus on Guam.

No new cases were confirmed in the last 24 hours. There remain nine confirmed cases of locally acquired dengue infection and six confirmed cases of imported dengue infection since April 24, 2019.

DPHSS continues to receive reports of suspect cases as a result of the department's increased community outreach and timely reporting by Guam healthcare providers. Dengue is spread to people through the bite of an infected mosquito. The community is advised to avoid mosquito bites to help stop the spread of dengue.

Preventive Measures: Mosquito Control outside Your Home

- Prevent dengue by avoiding mosquito bites.
- Reduce the number of new mosquitoes that carry dengue by eliminating the places they lay eggs. Once a week, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out any items that hold water like tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flower pot saucers, or trash containers. Mosquitoes lay eggs near water.
 - Tightly cover water storage containers (buckets, cisterns, rain barrels) so that mosquitoes cannot get inside to lay eggs.
 - For containers without lids, use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito. Window and door screens sold at hardware stores have mesh small enough to keep mosquitoes out.
 - Use larvicides to kill larvae in large containers of water that will not be used for drinking and cannot be covered or dumped out.
- If you have a septic tank, repair cracks or gaps. Cover open vent or plumbing pipes. Use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito.
- Use an outdoor insect spray made to kill mosquitoes in areas where they rest. Mosquitoes rest in dark, humid areas like under patio furniture, or under the carport or garage.

Dengue Presentation

As part of an aggressive outreach commitment, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to provide DPHSS with technical assistance on epidemiological surveillance, monitoring, and risk communications. Part of the initiative is providing informational briefs to all stakeholders and the community. Informational briefings can be made available upon request.

Weather permitting, the community is invited to an informational brief on dengue at Merizo Elementary School tomorrow, Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2019 at 6 p.m.

For more information, visit <http://dphss.guam.gov/dengue-fever/> or contact DPHSS, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (671) 735-0124. If there is an emergency, dial 911.


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