National Library of Medicine report for EAHIL

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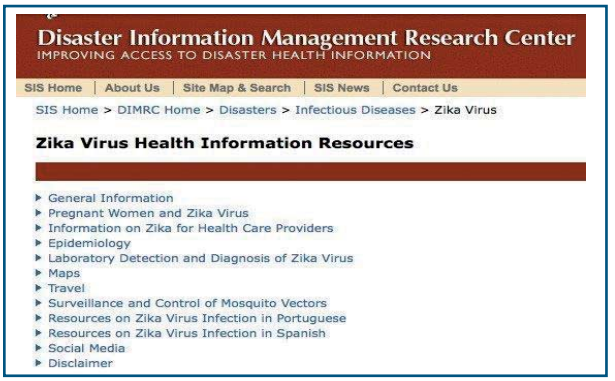
NLM Resources Related to Zika Virus Outbreak

Aedes aegiptis mosquito. Photo courtesy of CDC/ Prof. Frank Hadley Collins.

As you know, the World Health Organization declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on 1 February. There have been observations in Brazil of clusters of babies born with microcephaly in areas with a Zika virus outbreak. Health authorities and agencies are now investigating the potential connection between birth defects and the virus.

According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Zika virus is an emerging mosquito-borne virus that was first identified in Uganda in 1947 in rhesus monkeys through a monitoring network of sylvatic yellow fever. It was subsequently identified in humans in 1952 in Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Outbreaks of Zika virus disease have been recorded in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific. The virus is transmitted by an infected Aedes mosquito. About 1 in 5 people experience symptoms which may include a mild, flu-like illness, joint pain, rash, headache, or conjunctivitis lasting between 2-7 days.



Disaster Information Management Research Center (DIMRC) Zika Virus Resources Web Page

In response to this amplified health concern, we have created a new Zika Virus information resource page located at https://disasterinfo.nlm.nih.gov/dimrc/zikavirus.html.

Users will find information about the virus and infections, pregnant women, health care providers, epidemiology, detection and diagnosis, maps, travel, and surveillance and control. There are also information resources in Portuguese and Spanish, and social media. Patient focused information in English and Spanish is available from MedlinePlus, https://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/zikavirus.html.

To facilitate literature retrieval, two new Medical Subject Headings were added to the 2016 version of MeSH; Zika Virus and Zika Virus Infection. MEDLINE/PubMed Indexing for these headings began January 28, 2016.

MeSH Heading	Zika Virus	
Tree Number	B04.820.250.350.995	
Annotation	infection = ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION	
Concept 1 (Preferred)	**Zika Virus**	
	Scope Note	An arbovirus in the FLAVIVIRUS genus of the family FLAVIVIRIDAE. Originally isolated in the Zika Forest of UGANDA it has been introduced to Asia and the Americas.
	Term	Zika Virus
	Term	Virus, Zika

MeSH Browser Snapshot of Zika Virus MeSH term

MeSH Heading	Zika Virus Infection	
Tree Number	C02.081.990	
Tree Number	C02.782.350.250.990	
Concept 1 (Preferred)	**Zika Virus Infection**	
	Scope Note	A viral disease transmitted by the bite of AEDES mosquitoes infected with ZIKA VIRUS. Its mild DENGUE-like symptoms include fever, rash, headaches and ARTHRALGIA. The viral infection during pregnancy, however, may be associated with other neurological and autoimmune complications (e.g., GUILLAIN-BARRE SYNDROME; and MICROCEPHALY).
	Term	Zika Virus Infection
	Term	Fever, Zika
	Term	Zika Fever
	Term	Zika Virus Disease

MeSH Browser Snapshot of Zika Virus Infection MeSH term

View of the entryway of the National Library of Medicine

Feedback for the Future Direction of NLM

In February 2015, a Request for Information (RFI) was issued by the NLM Working Group of the Advisory Committee to the National Institutes of Health Director. The working group was convened by Dr. Francis Collins to consider current activities and recommend future directions for NLM.

The responses to the RFI were considered by the working group and figured strongly in their report and recommendations (http://acd.od.nih.gov/nlm.htm).

The responses covered a full range of NLM program areas, citing more than 200 specific products, services, projects, features, policies and programs. The over 600 respondents represented a broad spectrum of communities we serve both nationally and internationally.

One wrote, "Over the past fifty years, the National Library of Medicine has taken on the role of a national library with success; it is now an international leader because of the services and resources that it provides to all users."

Responses encouraged NLM to lead, coordinate and continue our involvement in the standards bodies and embrace open international standards in publishing, metadata and terminologies. Several respondents stressed NLM impact both nationally and internationally to systematically collect and conserve our electronic cultural heritage in historical collections.

We appreciate all of our international partners, colleagues and friends who responded to the RFI. We fully expect this valuable feedback to be revisited by our new Director as he or she develops their vision for NLM's future.