



Joint Information Center – JIC Release No. 7
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Additional Confirmed Cases of Dengue; Community-Wide Efforts Continue

From close of business Friday through Saturday morning, the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) tested and confirmed six additional cases of dengue infection. Five of the six are locally acquired cases, meaning these individuals had no recent travel history. One of the six cases is suspected to be an imported case, meaning it probably was acquired through travel outside of Guam.

To date, there are now **seven** confirmed cases of locally acquired dengue infection and **three** confirmed cases of imported dengue infection. With the enhanced surveillance and continued timely reporting by Guam healthcare providers, DPHSS expects additional cases of dengue to be detected. DPHSS also continues mosquito surveillance to include the capture of adult mosquitoes in high-risk areas.

Dengue by the Numbers as of 2019

DATE CONFIRMED	IMPORTED CASES	LOCALLY CONTRACTED CASES
Apr. 2019	1	0
Aug. 2019	1	0
Sept. 2019	1	7
TOTAL AS OF Sept. 21, 2019	3	7

Community-Wide Efforts Continue

DPHSS continues efforts through the weekend to investigate the newly confirmed cases and identify additional details to limit the spread of the virus. Support continues from other GovGuam agencies, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization, Pacific Island Health Officers Association, and local health care providers.

The DPHSS Epidemiology and Surveillance Teams continue canvassing homes and notifying residents in the areas of concern to help clean any potential breeding sites. Partner agencies from

the Department of Public Works (DPW), the Mayors' Council of Guam, Chamorro Land Trust Commission, Department of Agriculture, Guam Environmental Protection Agency, and the Guam Police Department continue to work together in areas of concern. Insecticide application was conducted at consenting homes in Mangilao today. DPW continues collecting and transferring debris to Global Recycling, which remained open today to assist with this effort. To eliminate mosquito breeding sites, DPW, working with the Dededo Mayor's Office, removed 28 abandoned vehicles, 20 white goods appliances, and 554 tires from the high risk area identified in Dededo.

Dengue Facts

- Dengue fever is not spread directly from person-to-person, it is spread by the bite of infected mosquitoes.
- A person infected with the dengue virus usually will have fever for 2-7 days. During the time that a person has a fever they can infect mosquitoes with the dengue virus.
- During the time an infected person has a fever (febrile phase), they should remain indoors and avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.
- During the time an infected person has a fever (febrile phase), they should not go to school or work.
- **Once a person no longer has a fever, they are no longer infectious to mosquitoes. Mosquito avoidance is still recommended for everyone in Guam, regardless.**

See your healthcare provider if you experience any of the following symptoms of dengue fever: fever, aches and pains, rash, mild bleeding usually around the nose or gums. Visit your nearest hospital emergency room if you experience any of the following symptoms of severe dengue fever: severe abdominal pain, persistent vomiting, significant bleeding, lethargy or restlessness.

Help stop the spread of dengue virus

Take precautions to prevent mosquito bites by applying insect repellent and wearing light-colored long sleeved shirts and pants. The mosquito that carries the dengue virus favor smaller areas of water as found in artificial containers. Eliminating these areas can help stop the spread of the dengue virus.

The community is reminded to only share official, verified information from the Joint Information Center. For more information, visit <https://ghs.guam.gov/>, or contact the Joint Information Center Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (671) 478-0208/09/10. If there is an emergency, dial 911.

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