

Dengue: Fiction versus Fact

FICTION	FACT
<p>Outdoor spraying with insecticides for mosquitoes is the best way to control dengue</p>	<p>Outdoor spraying of insecticides is only one of several methods to control adult mosquito populations. In fact, it's not the most effective measure to control mosquitoes and prevent dengue because it does not penetrate inside the houses where the mosquitoes rest.</p> <p>Effective mosquito control generally requires use of multiple methods to kill all mosquito stages, from eggs to adults. Several methods are generally used, including insecticides, environmental control and biological control (Discussed during the presentation).</p> <p>Mosquito control should be a community priority. Everyone can help control mosquito populations by emptying and discarding containers that hold water inside and outside the home on a weekly basis.</p> <p>Outdoor spraying is very visible. The public therefore feels more protected and safe after outdoor spraying with insecticide because it kills mosquitoes outside the home. Remember, killing adult mosquitoes does not kill eggs, larvae or pupae. So, even if outdoor spraying is effective in killing adult mosquitoes, eggs will hatch and become adults in about a week.</p>

<p>2. Rainfall increases reproduction of <i>Aedes aegypti</i> mosquitoes and the number of dengue cases.</p>	<p>Rain alone doesn't increase the mosquito population.</p> <p>Mosquitoes lay eggs in containers with standing water. Rainwater will cover the eggs and will cause the eggs to hatch.</p> <p>The more containers with standing water inside and around the house, the more the mosquito population will grow. The more dengue-infected mosquitoes there are in a community, the higher the number of human cases.</p>
<p>The Aedes mosquito, responsible for spreading dengue, lays eggs in clear, clean water only and in creeks, ponds and, brooks.</p>	<p>Mosquitoes do not lay eggs in ponds, creeks or brooks.</p> <p>Aedes mosquitoes lay eggs in any containers that hold water. Mosquitoes only need a small amount of water to lay eggs; almost any container will do!</p>
<p>Data from the weekly dengue surveillance report, the PDSS, produced by PRDH and CDC is always delayed.</p>	<p>The PRDH reports data through the PDSS Weekly Report as samples suspected cases are reported (occur). There is usually a 2 week delay from the current week and the publication of the report.</p>
<p>Dengue is a type of influenza. If someone gets vaccinated for influenza, it protects them from dengue.</p>	<p>Influenza and dengue are two different diseases caused by completely different viruses.</p> <p>The influenza vaccine does not provide protection against dengue.</p> <p>Protect yourself from mosquito bites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear long sleeves and long pants • Use insect repellents when outdoors; always follow label instructions. • Keep mosquitoes out of your home.

	<p>Repair screens in windows and doors. Avoid propping open doors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have air conditioning, use it. • Kill mosquitoes in your home with insecticide.
<p>A doctor can test for dengue in the office.</p>	<p>A dengue diagnosis requires a blood sample. After a doctor provides an order for a dengue test, the patient will need to go to a clinical laboratory to have a blood sample taken. This sample is tested for dengue and generally takes several days to confirm.</p> <p>Most likely, the doctor will order a CBC or complete blood count test. This test does not diagnose dengue, but will help the doctor make a clinical diagnosis of dengue and take care of the patient.</p>
<p>For a patient with severe dengue, a blood platelet transfusion is the best treatment.</p>	<p>Severe dengue is generally not treated with a blood platelet transfusion.</p> <p>Severe dengue may require intravenous (IV) fluid treatment in the hospital.</p> <p>There is no drug to treat or cure dengue. Doctors can only treat the symptoms of dengue.</p>
<p>CDC is located in Atlanta, Georgia</p>	<p>CDC Headquarters is located in Atlanta. In 1951, CDC opened up a field station in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Since 1972, its work has focused exclusively on dengue. This facility</p>

is called the CDC Dengue Branch.

All dengue laboratory tests are processed at CDC by the Puerto Rico Department of Health in San Juan.