Overview

- Many diseases are spread by vectors.
- Vectors are insects or animals that spread an infectious disease through a bite, or contact with their urine, faeces, blood, etc.
- · Vectors include mosquitoes, flies, ticks, rodents, cockroaches and fleas.
- Diseases spread by vectors include malaria, dengue fever, Zika, chikungunya, yellow fever, Rift
 Valley fever and plague.

How you can help

- It is very important to remember that spraying chemicals to get rid of vectors can be dangerous, especially if you do not have the proper equipment or materials and do not know how to spray safely.
- ALWAYS ask professionals to spray against vectors. (Only help if you are trained or guided by a well-trained person.)
- Volunteers can nevertheless help in many other ways, including by promoting recommended hygiene and sanitation practices.
- Talk to people in your community about storing food and water properly, keeping shelters and houses clean, cleaning the environment, using bed nets at night, and wearing clothing (for example, with long sleeves) that protects against vectors such as mosquitoes.
- See the table on the other side of this card for more information on how volunteers can help.





Keep the community clean. Always ask for professionals to spray against vectors.

Main mosquito-borne diseases and control methods

Disease	Vector	Vector biting time	Vector/reservoir breeding site	Primary community prevention method	Secondary community prevention method
Malaria	Anopheles mosquito	Most species bite at night (with notable exceptions).	Unpolluted water.	Long-lasting insecticide- treated nets; indoor residual spraying; intermittent preventive treatment.	Insecticide- treated materials; space spraying; larviciding.
Dengue	Aedes mosquito	Morning, afternoon.	Containers, small pools, unpolluted water.	Environmental management; vaccination.	Larviciding.
Chikungunya	Aedes mosquito	Morning, afternoon.	Containers, small pools.	Environmental management.	Larviciding.
Yellow fever	Aedes mosquito	Morning, afternoon.	Containers, small pools.	Vaccination.	Environmental management; larviciding.
Zika	Aedes mosquito	Morning, afternoon.	Containers, small pools, unpolluted water.	Environmental management.	Larviciding.

Other vectors

Plague bacteria are most often transmitted by the bite of an infected rodent or flea. To prevent
contamination, people should: store food and water (including animal food) in rodent-proof covered
containers; screen or close holes in walls and roofs; remove rubbish and environmental debris from
around dwellings; sleep on a raised platform (not on the floor); and use repellents. See Action tool 38
and Community message tool 27.









Vectors: Mosquito, flea, fly and rat

Community messages

See the following community messages to support vector control:

- 4 Storing water properly
- 6 Using a clean latrine
- 7 Protecting yourself against mosquitoes

- 11 Cleaning up places where mosquitos breed
- 12 Good food hygiene
- 17 Sleeping under mosquito nets
- 20 Collecting and disposing of rubbish
- 27 Keeping rodents out