



About Dengue

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KEY POINTS

- Dengue viruses are spread to people through mosquito bites.
- A person can be infected with dengue multiple times in their life.
- Each year, up to 400 million people are infected by a dengue virus.



What it is

Dengue is a viral disease caused by any of the four related viruses: dengue virus 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Types

There are four different but closely-related dengue virus types: dengue-1, dengue-2, dengue-3, and dengue-4.

Symptoms

The most common dengue symptom is fever with:

- Aches and pains (eye pain, typically behind the eyes, muscle, joint, or bone pain)
- Nausea, vomiting
- Rash
- Any warning sign

KEEP READING:

[Symptoms of Dengue and Testing](#)

When to expect symptoms

- Symptoms of dengue usually begin within 2 weeks after being bitten by an infected mosquito.
- Symptoms typically last 2–7 days. Most people will recover after about a week.

Areas with Risk of Dengue

Dengue transmission is common in tropical and subtropical areas of the world.

KEEP READING:

[Areas with Risk of Dengue](#)

How it spreads

Dengue viruses are mainly spread to people by the bite of an infected *Aedes* mosquito.

KEEP READING:
[How Dengue Spreads](#)

Prevention

The best way to prevent dengue is to avoid mosquito bites.

In the United States, there is a dengue vaccine recommended for use in children 9 through 16 with laboratory confirmation of a previous dengue infection, living in areas where dengue is common.

KEEP READING:
[Preventing Dengue](#)

Treatment

- There is no specific medicine to treat dengue.
- **Rest** as much as possible.
- **Take acetaminophen** to control fever and relieve pain.
- **Drink plenty of fluids** to stay hydrated.
- See a **healthcare provider** if you develop a fever or have symptoms of dengue. Tell him or her about your travel.

Vaccines

In the United States, there is a dengue vaccine recommended for use in children 9 through 16 with laboratory confirmation of a previous dengue infection, living in areas where dengue is common.

The vaccine is not approved for use in U.S. travelers who are visiting but not living in an area where dengue is common.

KEEP READING:
[About a Dengue Vaccine](#)

SOURCES

CONTENT SOURCE:
[National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases \(NCEZID\)](#)