



Statement regarding Zika virus, Aruba February 2016.

The Department of Public Health of Aruba has been monitoring the developments of the Zika virus since the end of 2014. The Department of Public Health has been keeping the physicians and other caregivers together with Aruba Tourism Authority up to date regarding the Zika virus situation.

As of today (February 5, 2016) this virus has not been introduced to Aruba.

The DPH has an integrated control system in place for these mosquito borne infections. Together with the physicians there is a surveillance system for these mosquito borne diseases, where timely notifications will result in timely effective control and containment of a case and mosquito population on the island. Control and containment is done by fumigating at the house and nearby houses of a suspected case. The suspected patient is advised to prevent further mosquito bites by wearing long sleeves and pants and to sleep beneath a net or in an air conditioned room.

The DPH is in close contact with the hotel sector and the vector control unit of the DPH monitors the mosquito population at the hotels and apartments regularly. Through this monitoring system the adult mosquito population will be controlled and kept at a low level. In the absence of the mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*, no transmission will be possible of the Zika virus or other infections such as Dengue and Chikungunya.