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Zika Virus Infection

Zika virus is an emerging pathogen that is transmitted among nonhuman primates and humans by Aedes mosquitoes. Human infections are usually benign and are most likely misdiagnosed as dengue or influenza. Zika virus infection is characterized by influenza-like clinical signs, including fever, headaches, and malaise. A maculopapular rash, conjunctivitis, myalgia, and arthralgia usually accompany or follow those manifestations. Zika virus infection was first documented in Africa in 1947 and was later recognized in southeastern and southern Asia. In recent years, the number of Zika virus infections reported from Micronesia and Polynesia has increased steadily.

ENCEPHALITIS

The major encephalitis viruses are found in the families Bunyaviridae, Flaviviridae, Rhabdoviridae, and Togaviridae. However, individual agents of other families, including Dhori virus and thogotovirus (Orthomyxoviridae) as well as Banna virus (Reoviridae), have been known to cause isolated cases of encephalitis as well. Arboviral encephalitides are seasonal diseases, commonly occurring in the warmer months. Their incidence varies...
Increase in Guillain-Barré syndrome linked to Zika virus outbreak in French Polynesia

by Melissa McCoy, Stefan Trella

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1. This case-control study of a Zika virus outbreak in French Polynesia showed that an increased incidence of Guillain-Barré syndrome was associated with recent Zika virus infection.

2. History of past dengue virus infection did not significantly differ between cases and control groups as analyzed via retrospective serum immunoassays.

Evidence Rating Level: 3 (Average)

Study Rundown:
During an outbreak of Zika virus between October 2013 and April 2014 in French Polynesia, there was also an increase in the incidence of Guillain-Barré syndrome, an autoimmune
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A 40-year-old woman comes to the clinic with a history of worsening nasal congestion and recurrent sinus infections. She had been healthy until about 1 year ago when she first noticed persistent rhinorrhea, sneezing, and stuffiness. She noted that when she went on a 2-week vacation to Mexico, her rhinorrhea disappeared, only to return when she came home again. She has lived in the same house for the past 5 years along with her husband and one child. They have had a dog for 4 years and a cat for 1 year. On physical examination, she has boggy, swollen nasal turbinates and a cobblestone appearance of her posterior pharynx.

1. What are the major clinical manifestations of allergic rhinitis?
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Thank You!

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