

Important Zika News – as of 8/23/2016

There are several new pieces of information regarding Zika:

1. A new area with local transmission by mosquitos has been identified in Miami, Florida for a portion of South Beach. There were five initial cases, two are residents and three are visitors who returned to their homes in New York, Texas and Taiwan. July 14 is the first date of concern.
<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/intheus/florida-update.html>
2. A non-travel case of Zika has been identified in Pinellas County, Florida and was announced today. Public Health investigation has begun including testing those that live and work close to the infected person. Mosquito abatement has begun. Note: two non-travel cases are the minimum number for an area to be considered a local transmission area.
3. A scientific research study was released using mice models that indicates that the Zika virus is able to cause brain damage in mice adult neural stem cells. Two brain centers in the mice contain neural stem cells like fetal tissue does. After being infected with Zika, the mice brain growth stopped in this tissue. Before this study, all research had looked at damage to fetal cells due to the microcephaly and other neural anomalies in pregnancy. This is the first one to address adult tissue. **There are no conclusions for humans from this study but more research is needed.**
[http://www.cell.com/cell-stem-cell/abstract/S1934-5909\(16\)30252-1](http://www.cell.com/cell-stem-cell/abstract/S1934-5909(16)30252-1)