

### c Zika virus update

No new countries have been added to the list of countries reporting local Zika virus (ZIKV) transmission. A total of 105 locally acquired ZIKV cases has been reported in Miami, Florida, United States of America since July 2016. ZIKV outbreaks and associated congenital brain abnormalities continue to be reported in the Latin American and Caribbean region, recently Saint Kitts and Nevis in the Caribbean.

In the Western Pacific Region outbreaks continue in 2016 in seven countries including Singapore with more than 200 cases confirmed. Seven other countries in the Western Pacific and South-East Asia Regions, including recently New Caledonia and the Maldives, have reported local mosquito-borne infections for which increased surveillance may partially account for. Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde off the western coast of Africa remain the only African countries reporting outbreaks in 2016.

No ZIKV cases resulting from attendance at the 2016 Summer Olympics and Paralympics Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, have been reported by any country. A number of members of the South African Olympic and Paralympic teams (symptomatic and asymptomatic) requested ZIKV testing upon return, with no evidence of infection detected in any tested thus far.

In accordance with WHO guidance, men and women returning from areas with ZIKV active transmission areas should adopt safer sex practices or consider abstinence for at least 6 months upon return and apply insect repellent for at least 3 weeks upon return to reduce the risk of onward transmission. Pregnant women and partners living in or visiting areas of active transmission must take preventive measures to avoid mosquito bites.

**Source:** Centre for Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases, NICD-NHLS; (januszp@nicd.ac.za)