

FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
administrative marker by the William J. Clinton
Presidential Library Staff.**

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records
Subgroup/Office of Origin: Americorps
Series/Staff Member: General Files
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 24228
FolderID:

Folder Title:
[Dengue Fever Update] [loose]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
S	66	1	4	3

Dengue Fever: Update Information for Response Personnel

Introduction:

Dengue fever is common throughout the tropics, and is present every year in the Virgin Islands. This fact sheet will provide you with important health and safety information while you are responding to the aftermath of Hurricane Marilyn.

Cause:

Dengue fever is caused by a virus transmitted by the mosquito *Aedes aegypti*. The mosquito gets infected by biting a person who is sick with dengue. After about 10 days the infected mosquito can pass the virus to a susceptible person when it feeds. Several other species of mosquito are common in the Virgin Islands but none can transmit dengue.

Aedes aegypti is a domestic species, closely associated with human habitation. It breeds in water in man-made containers, never in ponds or swamps. It is day-active, mainly biting in the afternoon and early morning. The other common mosquitoes in the Virgin Islands bite at dawn and dusk, or at night.

Symptoms of dengue:

Dengue usually begins with a sudden fever, followed by severe headache, joint and muscle pains. A characteristic rash may appear after a few days. Most patients recover within a week to ten days, but on rare occasions, the illness may be more severe, with spontaneous bleeding, shock and even death.

There is no vaccine for dengue. Patients should seek medical care. Fever should be controlled with acetaminophen ('Tylenol') but NOT WITH ASPIRIN, as this may increase the risk of bleeding. Seek medical care/advice if fever or other symptoms appear; Public Health Service is providing medical care at various sites including the DFO. If symptoms appear after you return home, inform your medical care provider of your travel to an endemic dengue area. Information may be obtained from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Vector Borne Infectious Disease Dengue Branch in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The telephone number is (809) 766-5181.

Prevention:

Space spraying (fogging) from vehicles or aircraft is not effective against *Aedes aegypti*. The mosquito is best controlled by eliminating its breeding receptacles or treating them with insecticide.

Personal protection measures:

- Use insect repellent containing DEET (be sure to read the instructions);
- Keep mosquitoes out of living/sleeping quarters;
- Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts;
- Eliminate all potential breeding receptacles in the area of your working/living area.

U. S. Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, San Juan Laboratories

September 27, 1995