

Healthcare Provider and Patient Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Regarding Zika Virus

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INTRODUCTION

Zika virus emergence in the western hemisphere has prompted the critical need for tailored risk counseling. Our team created a KAP survey in order to assess provider and patient awareness of Zika virus symptoms, transmission, treatment, and current and future concerns in order to inform local risk-counseling efforts.



CONCLUSIONS

The survey results provide novel insight into the KAP of patients and healthcare providers regarding Zika virus. This data will be used to optimize information distribution to our community, address large knowledge gaps in both patients and providers, and prepare medical providers to offer needed counseling.

METHODS

The cross-sectional survey was issued in Medical Faculty Associates (MFA) clinics and via an online link to healthcare providers and community members. The REDCap Data Collection tool was used to capture responses with subsequent SAS data analysis.



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RESULTS (N=172; C=community; H=healthcare providers)

KNOWLEDGE:	C	H
Aware of a link between Zika virus and microcephaly	94%	100%
Can properly identify Zika symptoms	49%	75%
Aware of symptom treatment options	23%	71%
Aware that Zika can be passed trans-placentally	73%	91%
Believe DEET to be unsafe in pregnancy	27%	48%
Uncertain of permethrin safety in pregnancy	77%	52%
Aware of Zika infection within the USA	68%	61%
Aware of Zika vaccine availability	79%	98%
Aware of period of highest Zika infectivity after contracting the virus	22%	46%

ATTITUDES:	C	H
Belief in importance of vaccine	89%	89%
Concerned about having a child with microcephaly	64%	50%
Believe that Zika virus is a serious problem in their area	15%	14%
Worried for their family due to Zika virus	39%	31%
Believe that all newly pregnant mothers should have Zika screening	66%	46%
Concerned about Zika virus causing learning disabilities	62%	62%
Concerned about Zika virus spread through breastmilk	36%	44%
Men concerned about spreading Zika virus to their partner sexually after traveling to a Zika endemic area	10%	24%

PRACTICES:	C	H
Plan to restrict travel to Zika endemic regions	55%	49%
Plan to protect against mosquitos in the USA	58%	41%
Plan to protect against mosquitos in Zika endemic areas	95%	93%
Plan to breastfeed if traveled to a Zika endemic area during pregnancy	15%	24%
Plan to abstain from sex if pregnant and partner traveled to Zika endemic area	16%	13%
Plan to delay pregnancy	13%	18%
Plan to abstain from sex if pregnant and traveled to Zika endemic area	11%	9%
Plan to use condoms if pregnant and traveled to Zika endemic area	20%	24%