



Division of Public Health Services

*Office of the Assistant Director
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JANICE K. BREWER, GOVERNOR
WILL HUMBLE, DIRECTOR

December 12, 2014

Tyler Sharp, PhD
Acting Epidemiology Team Lead, Dengue Branch
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dear Dr. Sharp,

Since September 2014, there has been a large increase of 67 imported dengue cases in Arizona associated with travel to Mexico as well as reports of dramatic increases of dengue in northern Sonora Mexico along the Arizona Sonora, Mexico border, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). A health alert was sent to providers on October 27th and Yuma County Health Department is using CDC Dengue educational materials as well as educational material from Sonora Mexico to increase local awareness among providers and the public.

The Arizona Department of Health Services requests assistance from CDC to determine if there has been local transmission of dengue, assist with provider education, and determine the risk of ongoing dengue transmission.

Conduct an investigation to:

1. Conduct retrospective case finding among patients with dengue-like illness
2. Perform household-based cluster investigations around the homes of travel associated and/or locally acquired dengue cases to identify unreported cases and individuals with asymptomatic infection using questionnaires to gather epidemiologic and behavioral data, serologic testing, and entomologic surveillance
3. Conduct a least one dengue clinical training for healthcare workers and providers
4. Consult on educational strategies to increase public prevention activities
5. Examine serologic evidence of mosquito exposure among those household members or neighbors of reported dengue cases

This investigation will provide valuable evidence to inform the present response and future prevention efforts of both Yuma County Health Department and ADHS to possible introduction of dengue in Arizona.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Komatsu".

Kenneth Komatsu
State Epidemiologist
Office Chief – Infectious Disease Services

Diana Gomez, Director, Yuma County Health Department

Health and Wellness for all Arizonans