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Zika Virus Infection after Returning from Thailand

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Dear Editor

Zika virus infection is a new problem that is being seen worldwide [1-3]. This disease can be seen in travelers returning from visits to tropical countries. In Thailand, a tropical country in Southeast Asia, the disease has already been reported in some local Thai patients as well as among foreign travelers returning from Thailand [4]. There are at least 2 confirmed cases of Zika virus infection in travelers returning from Thailand [5, 6]. This number is comparable to the 7 confirmed cases of infection in local Thais [4]. The two cases are Western travelers who visited sea resort areas in Thailand and fell ill during their flight back. Their infection was confirmed as an imported case of Zika virus in their hometowns in Europe and Canada [5, 6]. However, there is no confirmed case of Zika virus infection in any local Thai people living in the visited sea resort areas. This situation can confirm the importance of travel medicine. Travelers to any locations should be aware of the risks of infection despite the lack of reports or documented risk notification on that travel destination. It is recommended that any travelers be informed of the situation at the port of entry by the local public health agency and be warned of the risks of Zika virus infection in each specific area.

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