

Zika Policy for Health Talents International

Zika virus infection during pregnancy can cause serious neurological defects in babies, including microcephaly, eye problems and other neurological problems. Zika is spread by the bite of a mosquito carrying the virus and can also be spread by sexual contact. It is estimated that only about 20% of people infected by Zika develop symptoms. This indicates that the risk is real.

Health Talents guidelines for persons applying as team members and others traveling from North America to Guatemala and Nicaragua was revised in November of 2017 and now mirrors the CDC.

Traveling Partner

How long to wait

The couple should consider using condoms or not having sex for at least **6 months**

If only the male partner travels to an area with the risk of Zika

1. After the male partner returns, even if he doesn't have symptoms, or
2. From the start of the male partner's symptoms or the date he was diagnosed with Zika

The couple should consider using condoms or not having sex for at least **2 months**

If only the female partner travels to an area with the risk of Zika

1. After the female partner returns, even if she doesn't have symptoms, or
2. From the start of the female partner's Symptoms or the date that she was Diagnosed with Zika

The couple should consider using condoms or not having sex for at least **6 months**.

If both partners travel to an area with the risk of Zika

1. After returning from an area with the risk of Zika, even if they don't have symptoms, or
2. From the start of the male partner's symptoms or the date that was diagnosed with Zika

Here is the link to the CDC alert and we encourage you to take the time and inform yourself.
<https://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html>

By participating in one of our trips and programs, you acknowledge and accept this risk, holding Health Talents harmless.