

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



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DENGUE FEVER OUTBREAK IS OVER BUT GUAM STILL SEEING SPORADIC CASES

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Upon analysis of trends in dengue cases for the past five months, the Territorial Epidemiologist concludes that Guam's dengue outbreak began and ended in September 2019 and is now over. New outbreaks of dengue are **NOT** occurring every several weeks; instead, Guam has been seeing sporadic cases of locally acquired dengue. The DPHSS will declare another dengue outbreak when the number of locally acquired confirmed cases is three (3) or more in a two-week period.

The Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) received confirmatory laboratory results from off-island of a locally acquired dengue fever case on 2/26/2020, with onset of symptoms on 2/8/2020. The last locally acquired dengue fever case occurred on 1/11/2020; therefore, these 2 latest cases occurred more than a month apart.

At the beginning of the dengue outbreak in September 2019, there was a cluster of 9 locally acquired cases from September 11, 2019 to September 19, 2019. From October through December 2019, the other 5 locally acquired dengue cases each occurred several weeks apart. The latest two locally acquired dengue cases occurred more than one month apart in 2020. This pattern in dengue cases suggests that the dengue outbreak began diminishing in late September 2019. Thus, there are 24 total cases (16 locally acquired and 8 imported cases) from April 2019 through February 2020.

The public is urged to continue prevention efforts and clean up trash, water containers and other mosquito breeding areas to protect themselves.

Guam Public Health Laboratory (GPHL) can now conduct tests for dengue including serotyping. The GPHL relocated from its Mangilao facility to the third floor of the RAN-CARE Building at 761 South Marine Corps Drive, Tamuning, Guam 96913. For more information, contact Anne Marie Santos, GPHL Laboratory Administrator via email at annemarie.santos@dphss.guam.gov.

Providers should continue to be vigilant and report suspect dengue cases by secure email to the DPHSS ELC Program: annette.aguon@dphss.guam.gov AND the Territorial Epidemiologist: ann.pobutsky@dphss.guam.gov. For more information, please contact 735-7154 (business hours) or 888-9276 (WARN) (24 hours).

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