What you need to know about Zika

Virus transmission
- Vectors are infected Aedes mosquitoes
- Aedes mosquitoes also transmit dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever
- Sexual transmission
- Maternal-fetal transmission

Potential complications
- Microcephaly
- Guillain-Barré syndrome
- Fetal neurological disorders

Diagnosis
- Diagnosis can be confirmed by laboratory testing for the presence of Zika virus RNA or specific anti-Zika antibodies in the blood.

Prevention
- Protection against mosquito bites
- Vector control measures

Signs and symptoms
- Signs and symptoms most commonly include:
  - skin rash
  - mild fever
  - conjunctivitis
  - joint pain and swelling
  - muscle pain.
  - Illness lasts 2–7 days.

Treatment
- No vaccine currently available
- Mild self-limiting disease requiring rest, fluids and painkillers

Action to take if Zika infection suspected
- Ask patient if they have travelled to an area with ongoing Zika transmission.
- Record reply in patient’s notes.
- Treat the patient.
- Notify the disease surveillance officer within 24 hours.