

9. CONCLUSION

Currently, CHIK is not known to be circulating in the Americas; however, the risk of introduction is high due to travel importation, competent vectors (same vectors as dengue) and population susceptibility. Given the likelihood of introduction of CHIKV, advance preparation is essential. Timely detection of cases and appropriate and rapid response with active participation from all stakeholders will be necessary to minimize the risk of importation and sustained transmission in the region.

This guideline for the preparedness and introduction of CHIKV in the Americas was developed to increase awareness of the disease in the area and to provide the necessary tools to institute the most appropriate strategies to prevent the importation and spread of CHIKV in the region. Each member country is encouraged to use and adapt these guidelines to allow for early detection of an outbreak of the disease, to conduct pertinent epidemiologic investigations, and to prevent or mitigate the expansion of the disease in the Americas.