



MEMO

To: Prospective Members of the 2016 U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Delegations

From: Scott Blackmun, CEO

Date: February 10, 2016

Subject: Zika Virus Update

I know that the Zika virus outbreak in Brazil is of concern to many of you. I want to emphasize that it is to us as well and that your well-being in Rio this summer is our highest priority.

We have been in close contact with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as infectious disease specialists with expertise regarding the Zika virus. While a number of unanswered questions remain, as of today we believe the following to be true:

- Men and women can both be infected with the Zika virus. There is no vaccine to prevent Zika infection.
- Approximately 20 percent of people infected with the Zika virus display symptoms. Those symptoms include body aches, a rash and temporary changes in the sclera of the eye (redness in the eye).
- Men and women can get the virus from a certain species of mosquito and from male sexual partners who have been infected.
- Babies of mothers who have been infected with the Zika virus have an increased incidence of a birth defect called microcephaly. It appears that babies may be at risk if the mother becomes infected while she is pregnant or if she becomes pregnant within an unknown timeframe after being infected.
- The Zika virus is not just in Brazil. According to the World Health Organization, the virus is known to circulate in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific.
- Rapid testing to determine if an individual is infected is expected in the near future.

We are learning more every day and these facts may change. We continue to closely monitor the situation through the CDC and have attached FAQs from the CDC, as well as the IOC's letter regarding Zika dated January 29, 2016.

No matter how much we prepare, however, there will always be risk associated with international competition. Each country, each venue and each discipline will present different risks and require different mitigation strategies. The letter from the IOC details current mitigation approaches to Zika and I encourage you to read it carefully.

We want to be a resource for you and provide you with relevant information from reputable sources like the CDC and the WHO. Please visit TeamUSA.org/RioTravelUpdates for the most up-to-date information.

If you have any questions specific to the Zika virus, I encourage you to contact your personal physician or our delegation's chief medical officer, Dr. Bill Moreau (BillMoreau@usoc.org).

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