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[Home](#) > The Emerging Zika Pandemic. Enhancing Preparedness

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### **Source**

[Scientific literature](#) <sup>[1]</sup>

### **Tags**

[zika](#) <sup>[2]</sup>

[Preparedness](#) <sup>[3]</sup>

*Lucey DR, Gostin LO. JAMA. 2016 Mar 1;315(9):865-6.*

The Zika virus (ZIKV), a flavivirus related to yellow fever, dengue, West Nile, and Japanese encephalitis, originated in the Zika forest in Uganda and was discovered in a rhesus monkey in 1947. The disease now has explosive pandemic potential, with outbreaks in Africa, Southeast Asia, the Pacific Islands, and the Americas.<sup>1</sup> Since Brazil reported Zika virus in May 2015, infections have occurred in at least 20 countries in the Americas.<sup>2</sup> Puerto Rico reported the first locally transmitted infection in December 2015, but Zika is likely to spread to the United States. The *Aedes* species mosquito (an aggressive daytime biter) that transmits Zika virus (as well as dengue, chikungunya, and yellow fever) occurs worldwide, posing a high risk for global transmission. Modeling anticipates significant international spread by travelers from Brazil to the rest of the Americas, Europe, and Asia.<sup>3</sup> What steps are required now to shore up preparedness in the Americas and worldwide?

Link to [full text](#) <sup>[4]</sup>

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## ASSET

Action plan on **Science in Society** related issues in **Epidemics and Total pandemics**  
European Commission

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### Links

[1] <http://www.asset-scienceinsociety.eu/resources/scientific-literature>

[2] <http://www.asset-scienceinsociety.eu/tags/zika>

[3] <http://www.asset-scienceinsociety.eu/tags/preparedness>

[4] <http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2485361>