

## Ophthalmology Problem in Zika Virus Infection: Emerging Problem

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**Viroj Wiwanitkit\***  
Hainan Medical University, China

Zika virus infection is an emerging public health threat [1-3]. It is also declared by WHO for public health importance. The infection is classified as a tropical dengue like illness caused by mosquito biting [1-3]. The patient usually presents with fever, arthralgia and is usually accompanied with low platelet count. This acute hemorrhagic viral disease can induce congenital problem in infants born to infected mothers. The microcephaly child becomes the worldwide focused issue. In addition to the microcephaly, the ocular problem in affected child can also be seen. The problem has just been proposed for months after the emerging of problem after a big outbreak in South America. The direct viral invasion is the proposed pathomechanism. Of interest, the common ocular problems are "focal pigment mottling of the retina and chorioretinal atrophy [4]." De Paula et al. also noted that the "Bilateral findings were found in 7 of 10 patients [4]", which is considered a very high rate. In addition, "optic nerve abnormalities (hypoplasia with a double - ring sign, pallor, and/or increased cup-to-disk ratio)" are also common [5]. Ventura et al. concluded that "congenital infection due to presumed Zika virus exposure is associated with vision-threatening findings, which include bilateral macular and perimacular lesions as well as optic nerve abnormalities in most cases [5,6]. "Sarno et al. also noted that evidence that in addition to microcephaly, there may be a link between Zika virus infection and hydrops fetalis and fetal demise [6]" an confirmed for the autopsy finding of Zika virus in the vitreous body of the eye [7]. McCarthy concluded that "severe eye damage in infants with microcephaly is presumed to be due to the Zika virus [8]". However, the lack data is still on the non - pregnant case. There is little knowledge on this issue. The recent report showed that in non-pregnant case, orbital pain and bilateral conjunctival hyperemia could be seen and it can be self - limited after recovery from illness [9]. Since the ocular problem due to Zika virus infection is possible, it is the note that all ophthalmologists have to look for ocular problem in any case with an unexplained febrile illness that might be the first presentation of Zika virus infection [1-3,10]. In fact, unexplained acute febrile illness with conjunctivitis is recommended to be included in the differential diagnosis of Zika virus infection [11-13]. According to the recent report by Brasil et al. [13], 58% of Zika virus infected cases had conjunctiva involvement. Last, the problem in pregnant mother should not be forgotten. Ventura et al. recently studied infected mothers and found that "patients presented normal anterior segment and important macular and optic nerve abnormalities [5]."

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\*Corresponding author: Dr. Viroj Wiwanitkit, Visiting Professor, Hainan Medical University, China, Email: wviroj@yahoo.com

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