



Dengue Vaccine – fact sheet

Introduction

1. Dengue is a viral disease spread by the female Aedes mosquitoes. This mosquito lives indoors and usually bites in the day-time
2. Dengue symptoms can range from a mild flu-like fever, headaches, and body and joint aches. A more severe form may have skin rashes which can progress to life-threatening internal bleeding.
3. There are 4 types of serotypes dengue virus. This means that even after a previous dengue infection, a person can still be infected with the other types of dengue viruses
4. Those who are infected a subsequent time with a different type of the dengue virus may experience something called "antibody-dependent enhancement." This condition occurs when their body's immune response actually makes the clinical symptoms of dengue worse, increasing the risk of severe dengue.

Dengue Vaccination

5. A new vaccine effective against all four dengue strains has been launched. The Singapore Ministry of Health recommends the vaccine for the population aged between 12 to 45 years old.
6. Three doses are required. The second and third dose are given 6 months and 12 months after starting.
7. The most common side-effects of the vaccination include injection site pain, muscle aches, fever and headaches.
8. Dengue vaccination cannot be given to anyone with a fever or acutely unwell, pregnant or breastfeeding women, those who are immune-compromised e.g. AIDS infected persons and those known to be allergic to Dengue vaccines

Conclusion

9. As with all vaccines, some people may still come down with Dengue after vaccination.
10. Mosquito avoidance is essential. Remember to wear long and light clothing and use insect repellent. Mosquito patches containing citronella oil may be effective during pregnancy and for small children.