

What you need to know

What are the symptoms of Zika? Where can you go to get tested? Does getting infected make you immune? These questions are answered here.



Conjunctivitis

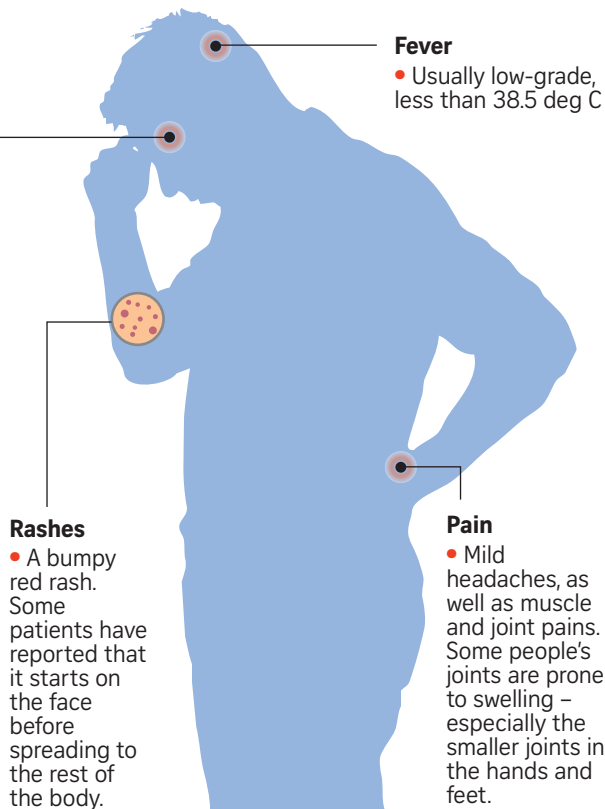
- More commonly known as red eyes, where the person's eyes look bloodshot.



A rash like this is one of the known symptoms of Zika infections.

SYMPTOMS

Only one in five people develops symptoms, which are usually fairly mild.



TESTING

Most testing is being done at the National Public Health Laboratory.

- Cases are typically referred from hospitals and other healthcare institutions.
- Testing is free for those who are referred there.
- Tests take three hours to be completed.
- Patients get their test results in about half a day.
- Raffles Hospital will send blood and urine samples to Tan Tock Seng Hospital for testing, although priority will be given to people who are suspected of having Zika.
- Those who have no symptoms but still wish to get tested can get it done at private hospitals such as those under the Parkway group, which includes Gleneagles Hospital, Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Mount Elizabeth Novena Hospital and Parkway East Hospital. The test costs about \$500, and takes between 24 and 72 hours.

IMMUNITY

- If you have been infected with Zika once, you should have lifetime immunity, said Professor Leo Yee Sin, a senior infectious diseases consultant at the Communicable Disease Centre.
- It is not advisable to try and get infected so you have immunity when you want to start a family. Not enough is known about Zika to warrant this.