

# Chikungunya

## Epidemiology, Pathogenesis, Clinical Features, Management, and Prevention



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### KEYWORDS

- Chikungunya • Arbovirus • Epidemic • Diagnosis, prevention, and treatment
- Zoonoses • Mosquito • *Aedes* spp

### KEY POINTS

- Chikungunya (CHIK) is a disabling and debilitating zoonotic disease of humans caused by the Chikungunya virus (CHIKV); it is transmitted by infected *Aedes* spp mosquitoes, which sustain sylvatic and human rural and urban CHIK cycles.
- Chikungunya is listed on the WHO Blueprint priority pathogens because in the past 5 years an alarming and unprecedented increase in spread to over 100 countries across Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas.
- The incubation period of between 1 and 12 days is followed by symptoms similar to dengue, Zika, parvovirus, enterovirus, malaria, with an abrupt onset of high fever, nausea, polyarthralgia, myalgia, widespread skin rash, and conjunctivitis.
- Serious complications include myocarditis, uveitis, retinitis, hepatitis, acute renal disease, severe bullous lesions, meningoencephalitis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, myelitis, and cranial nerve palsies. Severe disease occurs in neonates exposed during pregnancy, the elderly, and those with comorbid diabetes, renal, liver, and heart disease.
- Treatment is supportive and there is no specific antiviral treatment and no effective vaccines.

*Disclosure:* See last page of article.

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