


Zika virus infection and psychosis

Rev Bras Psiquiatr. 2018;40:113
Brazilian Journal of Psychiatry

 | doi:10.1590/1516-4446-2017-2561

We read the publication on “Zika virus infection followed by a first episode of psychosis” with great interest.¹ Corrêa-Oliveira et al. noted that “to the best of our knowledge, this is the first report in which psychiatric symptoms were the only complication of acute ZIKV infection”¹ and concluded that “Neuroimmune mechanisms leading to psychosis during acute CNS stress is an open and prolific field for research.”¹ In fact, a wide clinical spectrum of Zika virus infection has been reported, and psychological problems are possible.^{2,3} Neuropsychiatric problems as the only clinical presentation in acute Zika virus disease is not a new finding. At least, psychotic features in acute Zika virus infection have already been observed in cases in which meningoencephalitis was later proved.⁴ In the Zika virus infection with meningoencephalitis, spatial delusions with visual and kinesthetic hallucinations are observable.⁵

Beuy Joob,¹ Viroj Wiwanitkit²
¹Medical Academic Center, Bangkok, Thailand. ²Joseph Ayo Babalola University, Ilara-Mokin, Nigeria.

Submitted Nov 25 2017, accepted Nov 28 2017.

Disclosure

The authors report no conflicts of interest.

References

- 1 Corrêa-Oliveira GE, do Amaral JL, da Fonseca BA, Del-Ben CM. Zika virus infection followed by a first episode of psychosis: another flavivirus leading to pure psychiatric symptomatology. *Rev Bras Psiquiatr.* 2017;39:381-2.
- 2 Joob B, Yasser F. Phenotypic spectrum of congenital Zika syndrome: a comment on the usefulness of case report. *Case Study Case Rep.* 2017;7:29-30.
- 3 Pinheiro TJ, Guimarães LF, Silva MT, Soares CN. Neurological manifestations of Chikungunya and Zika infections. *Arq Neuropsiquiatr.* 2016;74:937-43.
- 4 Schwartzmann PV, Ramalho LN, Neder L, Vilar FC, Ayub-Ferreira SM, Romeiro MF, et al. Zika virus meningoencephalitis in an immunocompromised patient. *Mayo Clin Proc.* 2017;92:460-6.
- 5 Carteaux G, Maquart M, Bedet A, Contou D, Brugières P, Fourati S, et al. Zika virus associated with meningoencephalitis. *N Engl J Med.* 2016;374:1595-6.