



YELLOW FEVER FACT SHEET

WHAT IS YELLOW FEVER?

Yellow fever is a disease caused by a virus that is spread to people by the bite of an infected mosquito. The yellow fever virus is found in tropical and subtropical areas of Africa and South America.

HOW DO YOU GET YELLOW FEVER?

The virus is spread to people by the bite of an infected mosquito.

SYMPTOMS

Many people infected with Yellow Fever do not develop any symptoms or have only a mild illness. Symptoms typically appear 3 to 6 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. Initial symptoms in those who become ill may include:

- Fever
- Chills
- Severe headache
- Back pain
- Weakness
- General body aches
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Fatigue

TREATMENT

No specific treatments have been found to benefit patients with yellow fever. Whenever possible, yellow fever patients should be hospitalized for supportive care and close observation. Discuss treatment options with your doctor.

PREVENTION

The most effective way to avoid Yellow Fever is to prevent mosquito bites:

- Dump standing water around your home once a week.
- Use insect repellent.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Use screens on windows and doors.
- Repair any holes.

DPHD EFFORTS:

Reports of suspected and confirmed cases of disease are made to the Delaware Public Health District (DPHD). The DPHD investigates potential sources of illness, conducts surveillance for the spread of disease, and engages in community outreach and education. The DPHD regularly trap and test mosquito populations and fog areas where human disease is confirmed.