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Zika Virus Outbreak and Guillain-Barre Syndrome: Lesson Learnt from Evidences from Around the World

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EDITORIAL

Zika virus infection is an important new emerging public health problem that has just been well-known for a few years. This infection is an acute febrile illness but it can also cause many systematic clinical problems [1-2]. In clinical neurology, the Zika virus infection can induce brain defect in congenital infected cases. In addition, the peripheral neuropathy due to Zika virus infection is also observable. Of several possible problems, Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) is an important condition [3-5].

GBS is widely mentioned in Zika virus infection. The emerging Zika virus related GBS is of interest to general practitioners. The knowledge on this specific issue should have been better elaborated. Nascimento et al. noted that "The recent ZIKV outbreaks have triggered the occurrence of a myriad of neurological manifestations likely associated to this arbovirosis, in special GBS and its variants [3]." As it stands, the present knowledge usually refers to the results of the published works from the literatures to which medical scientists from around the world have nicely contributed. In the last few months, several review papers on this topic, discussing also the epidemiological variability, have been published. The important note is the difference in incidence of Zika virus related GBS. The incidence is usually high in tropical South America whereas the totally different, low, incidence is reported from tropical Asia [6]. In fact, the nature of milder disease is usually observable in tropical Asia. In a report on the study on this disease in Cambodia, the disease is common but silently circulated [7]. The interrelationship between Zika virus infection and GBS might be very difficult to assess.

Conflict of Interest: None

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