

9. PREVENTION OF DENGUE TRANSMISSION IN HOSPITALS

Patients are viraemic and hence potentially infectious during the febrile phase.^{125, 126}

There are a few small studies that demonstrate higher^{127, 128} levels and prolonged duration of viraemia in patients with DHF. There are no scientific studies that address the efficacy of mosquito repellents or mosquito netting in reducing dengue transmission in hospitalized patients. However several community studies have shown that the use of mosquito netting/screening was efficacious in preventing transmission of dengue in the community.^{129, 130}

Generally, repellent products with higher concentrations of DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide) were found to have longer repellence times.¹³¹

A consensus dengue guideline advised the use of mosquito netting or repellent day and night for hospitalized dengue patients to reduce nosocomial infection.⁸¹