

ROSS RIVER VIRUS

Ross River Virus is a disease caused by a virus which is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Ross River Virus disease occurs widely in Australia. Everybody who becomes infected with Ross River Virus will recover, however, the time taken to recover fully is prolonged in some people.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

Ross River Virus causes inflammation and pain in multiple joints.

Symptoms may include:

- Fever with joint pain & swelling.
- 1-10 days of raised red rash affecting mainly the trunk & limbs.

TRANSMISSION

Ross River Virus infection cannot be spread from human to human. Ross River Virus is spread from mosquito to human by a number of different types of mosquitoes.

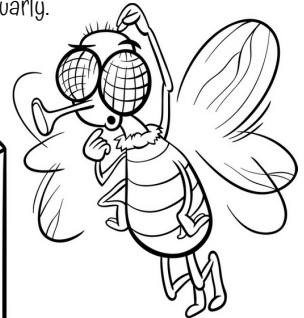
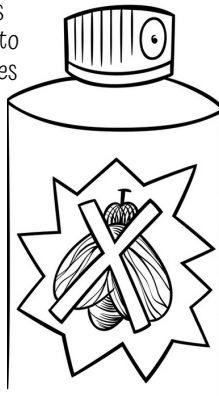
These mosquitoes include:

- *Culex annulirostris*.
- *Aedes vigilax* (salt marsh mosquito).
- *Aedes notoscriptus*.

PREVENTION IS IMPORTANT

The best prevention is to take precautions against being bitten by mosquitoes:

1. Avoid being outside during times of heavy infestation of mosquitoes e.g. early evenings in the warmer months.
2. Use insect repellents and wear protective, light coloured clothing.
3. Screen living and sleeping areas.
4. Check your home regularly for potential mosquito breeding areas e.g. any uncovered water containers should be emptied regularly.



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