



IMPLEMENTATION OF ANTI-MOSQUITO MEASURES ON SITE TO PREVENT CHIKUNGUNYA FEVER

Referring to the information of Department of Health, "Chikungunya Fever" is a mosquito-borne viral disease. The disease is characterised by fever and debilitating joint pain. Other common signs and symptoms include muscle pain, headache, nausea, fatigue and rash. Due to the increase in temperature and rainfall in summer, mosquito infestation might be aggravated, the Construction Industry Council (CIC) appeals to industry stakeholders to strengthen anti-mosquito measures to prevent "Chikungunya Fever". The CIC would like to deliver this safety message for your attention. It would be appreciated if you could distribute the message below to your fellow members, relevant personnel or other industry stakeholders where appropriate. Thank you very much.

Common Examples of Mosquito Breeding

1. Failure to clean up the stagnant water collected in ground depressions.
2. Failure to clean up the drainage systems on site causing collection of water.
3. Receptacles or construction materials left in open areas collect and hold water.
4. Failure to implement an effective anti-mosquito control programme, including regular inspection and eradication of breeding spots and spraying mosquito larvicial, etc.



Critical Control Measures

1. Construction team should make sufficient assessments on the health risks arising from mosquito borne diseases, and to take appropriate anti-mosquito measures.
2. Tidy up the construction site regularly (at least once a week), and check for any accumulation of stagnant water.
3. Designate staff to conduct weekly inspection to the construction site to ensure the mosquito preventive measures are properly implemented.
4. Pave or fill uneven ground and/or holes.
5. Dispose of objects that contain water, such as empty lunch boxes, cans, disused articles and tyres, into covered container(s) and remove them from the site regularly (at least once a week).
6. Cover all containers to prevent water accumulation for mosquito breeding.
7. Ensure trenches, lift wells, waste water treatment plants, water barriers, storage tanks, canvas sheets, abandoned tyres, equipment, machinery parts, and other common water holding black spots are not accumulating water.
8. Carry out larviciding at mosquito potential breeding sources or breeding grounds that are inaccessible or difficult to be eliminated.
9. Provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), e.g. respirator, impervious gloves and protective clothing, for workers to carry out the mosquito control work.
10. Construction teams should establish and implement an effective monitoring and management system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.



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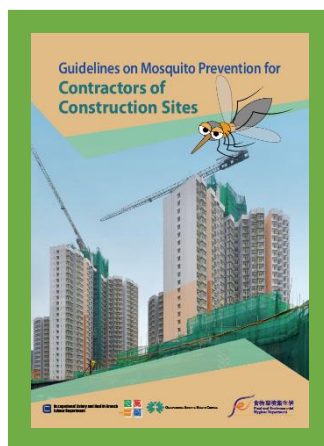


SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar risks be avoided?

- In the design stage, designers and engineers should consider adopting Design for Safety methods to eliminate or reduce areas on site prone to water accumulation at the source; besides, properly design temporary drainage systems on site and ensure that these systems are adequate and effective.
- During the construction stage, the work team should review the mosquito breeding blackspots regularly and implement an effective anti-mosquito measures.
- The work team could constantly identify the changes in the process or the environment through dynamic risk assessment and apply control measures to eliminate the risks of mosquito breeding.
- Workers can identify any mosquito potential breeding places, report it to their supervisors and take action against it immediately.

Reference Information



Guidelines on Mosquito Prevention for
Contractors of Construction Sites
(Source: Food and Environmental
Hygiene Department)



Guidebook on Control and Prevention
of Mosquito Breeding
(Source: Food and Environmental
Hygiene Department)



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