

## *Supplementary Materials for*

# Knowledge and attitudes towards Zika virus: an Italian nation-wide cross-sectional study

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### **Appendix 1**

Survey instrument

### **Table S1**

General item statistics for the eight items included in the final, simplified version of the questionnaire concerning Zika infection

### **Table S2**

Test/re-test concordance for the questionnaire

## Appendix 1

### Survey instrument

Item	Possible responses
Sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Male</li> <li>• Female</li> </ul>
Age	
Nationality	
Region of residency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Italy</li> <li>• Central Italy</li> <li>• South Italy / Islands</li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary/Secondary School</li> <li>• High school Degree</li> <li>• Bachelor Degrees</li> <li>• Master Degrees</li> <li>• Doctoral Degrees or equivalent</li> </ul>
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student</li> <li>• Employee</li> <li>• Freelancer</li> <li>• Unemployed</li> <li>• Retired</li> </ul>
Partner status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single</li> <li>• Engaged</li> <li>• Divorced/widowed</li> </ul>
Travel clinic consultation frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whenever before travelling abroad</li> <li>• Only for travel outside of Europe</li> <li>• Never attended/I never heard of it</li> </ul>
What is the cause of Zika infection?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A virus</li> <li>• Drinking contaminated water</li> <li>• Dirty environments</li> <li>• Mosquito</li> <li>• I do not know</li> </ul>
Which is the transmission route of the Zika infection?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through contact with saliva</li> <li>• By means of air particles (examples: coughing or sneezing)</li> <li>• Infected mosquito bite</li> <li>• I do not know</li> </ul>
What do you need to do before travelling to endemic areas (where Zika virus is highly prevalent)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bed nets, previously treated with repellents</li> <li>• Repellent sprays in sufficient quantities for the duration of the trip</li> <li>• All of the above</li> <li>• I do not know</li> </ul>
If Zika symptoms appear after returning from an endemic area, what should be done to prevent transmission of the infection?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practicing protected sex (condoms) for at least 6 months following the onset of symptoms</li> <li>• It is not necessary to take any preventive measures</li> <li>• I do not know</li> </ul>
If after returning from an endemic area, NO symptoms of Zika appear, what should be done in order to reduce the risk of transmission of the infection?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practicing protected sex (condoms) for at least 8 weeks after returning from the endemic area</li> <li>• It is not necessary to take any preventive measures</li> <li>• I do not know</li> </ul>
Which of the following preventive measures is necessary to take after returning from an endemic area, if the symptoms related to Zika have NOT appeared?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid donating blood for at least 28 days after returning</li> <li>• It is not necessary to take any preventive measures</li> <li>• I do not know</li> </ul>
Before planning to travel abroad, do you check if your destination is an endemic area and/or there are high-risk factors for Zika infection?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> </ul>
Travel clinic consultation frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whenever before travelling abroad</li> <li>• Only for travel outside of Europe</li> <li>• Never attended/I never heard of it</li> </ul>

**Table S1**

General item statistics for the eight items included in the final, simplified version of the questionnaire concerning Zika infection

Item	Item statistics			
	Mean of the scale if the item was excluded	Variance of scale if the item was excluded	Corrected total item-correlation	Cronbach's alpha if the item was excluded
1) What causes the Zika infection?	12.32	6.13	0.42	0.80
2) Which is the transmission route of the Zika infection?	12.32	5.66	0.77	0.77
3) What do you need to do before travelling to endemic areas?	12.32	6.13	0.42	0.80
4) If Zika symptoms appear after returning from an endemic area, what should be done to prevent transmission of the infection?	11.36	5.00	0.73	0.75
5) If after returning from an endemic area, no symptoms of Zika appear, what should be done in order to reduce the risk of transmission of the infection?	11.32	5.08	0.62	0.77
6) Which of the following preventive measures is necessary to take after returning from an endemic area, if the symptoms related to Zika have not appeared?	11.41	5.78	0.41	0.80
7) How often do you attend a travel medicine clinic (before travelling abroad)?	10.77	3.80	0.63	0.80
8) Before planning to travel abroad, do you check if your destination is an endemic area and/or there are high-risk factors for Zika infection?	12.05	5.38	0.53	0.78

**Table S2**

Test/re-test concordance for the questionnaire

Item	Test/re-test concordance
1) What causes the Zika infection?	0.94
2) Which is the transmission route of the Zika infection?	0.88
3) What do you need to do before travelling to endemic areas?	0.94
4) If Zika symptoms appear after returning from an endemic area, what should be done to prevent transmission of the infection?	0.76
5) If after returning from an endemic area, no symptoms of Zika appear, what should be done in order to reduce the risk of transmission of the infection?	0.76
6) Which of the following preventive measures is necessary to take after returning from an endemic area, if the symptoms related to Zika have not appeared?	0.88
7) How often do you attend a travel medicine clinic (before travelling abroad)?	0.94
8) Before planning to travel abroad, do you check if your destination is an endemic area and/or there are high-risk factors for Zika infection?	0.76