



**DCHHS**  
*Safe families, healthy lives*  
Dallas County Health and Human Services



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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### DCHHS reports the fourth human case of West Nile Virus

**DALLAS (August 11, 2021)** – Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) reports the fourth human case of West Nile Virus (WNV) infection in Dallas County for 2021. The patient is a resident of the 75244 zip code in the City of Dallas and has been diagnosed with West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease (WNND). Due to privacy and confidentiality reasons, DCHHS does not disclose personal information on the patient.

“We are very sorry to be reporting our fourth human case of West Nile Virus in Dallas County this year.” said Dr. Philip Huang, Director of DCHHS. “It is hard to imagine that these illnesses can result from something as seemingly minor as a mosquito bite. Please follow the 4 D’s to do everything you can to avoid mosquito bites”.

The best way to avoid exposure to West Nile Virus is to avoid mosquito bites. Residents should use the 4Ds to reduce their risk:

- **DEET:** Whenever you’re outside, use insect repellents that contain DEET or other EPA-approved repellents and follow instructions.
- **Dress:** Wear long, loose, and light-colored clothing when outdoors.
- **Drain:** Drain or treat all standing water in and around your home or workplace where mosquitoes could lay eggs.
- **Dawn to Dusk:** Limit your time outdoors during these times when mosquitos are most active.

WNV is a disease that is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes can become infected when they feed on the blood from infected birds. The infected mosquitoes can then transmit WNV to humans and animals. Severe WNV infections can cause neurologic complications such as encephalitis. Milder symptoms include fever, headache, and muscle aches. There is no vaccine or specific treatment for WNV. For more information, visit our website:

<https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/westnile.php>

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