

Dipartimento di sanità pubblica Servizio igiene pubblica

# INFORMATION ON CHIKUNGUNYA

Dear Sir/Madam,

Since **several indigenous cases of Chikungunya** (a viral disease transmitted by mosquito bites) have been detected in the municipality of Carpi, we are providing some information to residents in the area. Below is a brief summary of the disease's characteristics.

**If you have experienced one or more of the symptoms listed below**, especially if you have recently traveled abroad, we invite you to undergo a **blood test and urine test** to test for the disease.

#### WHAT IS CHIKUNGUNYA?

Chikungunya is an acute disease transmitted to humans by mosquito bites that have bitten an infected person. **Therefore, there is no direct human-to-human transmission.** 

The virus can be transmitted through mosquito bites from about 2 days before the onset of symptoms to about 7 days after the onset of symptoms (the viremic phase). During this period, mosquitoes can pick up the virus and transmit it to others. In our area, the main vector is the tiger mosquito.

### **HOW IT APPEARS (SYMPTOMS OF CHIKUNGUNYA)**

Symptoms usually appear 3 to 12 days after the mosquito bite (average 3-7 days).

The most common symptoms are:

- sudden fever
- severe joint and muscle pain
- headache
- changes in skin color and appearance (e.g., swelling, redness, itching, pain, blisters, or plaques)
- fatigue

# **HOW IT IS PREVENTED AND TREATMENT**

The most effective preventative measure against chikungunya is to **avoid mosquito bites**. There is no specific treatment for Chikungunya, and in most cases, people recover within two weeks.

### WHAT TO DO IF YOU EXPERIENCE SYMPTOMS

If you have experienced symptoms similar to those listed above since July 2025, especially after returning from a recent trip from Chikungunya-endemic areas (Southeast Asia, Africa, Central and South America, the Indian subcontinent, and Oceania), you can make free access from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m to the Carpi Blood Collection Point (Punto Prelievi), located at Piazzale dei Donatori di Sangue 3, until August 30 (excluding Sunday, August 24).

You will need to bring your urine sample, collected in the appropriate tube, which can be picked up at pharmacies in the province, and your health card (Tessera Sanitaria).

If you need further information from the Public Health Service, you can contact us:

- by phone at 800 90 90 41, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- by email at <a href="mailto:infovaccinazioni@ausl.mo.it">infovaccinazioni@ausl.mo.it</a>