Transmission & Serotypes
The dengue transmission cycle is between mosquito and humans. There is no animal reservoir for the virus in the Americas.

There are 4 serotypes of dengue. Individuals infected with one serotype are not protected from other types. Infection with an additional serotype can lead to more severe symptoms and greater likelihood of severe illness and death.

Dengue Moquito Vectors
*Aedes aegypti, Aedes albopictus*

Symptoms
Most people infected with dengue for the first time are asymptomatic or will have mild symptoms that include: fever, headache, muscle and joint pain.

Severe symptoms include very high fever, severe muscle and joint pain, severe headache behind the eyes, nausea and vomiting, and a rash. Severe cases require medical care.

Testing & Treatment
Symptoms of dengue mimic other common illnesses. Dengue can only be confirmed through a blood test.

There is no specific treatment for dengue; only supportive care and pain management. A vaccine is available for children in areas where dengue is endemic.

Locally Acquired vs Travel Related Cases
A travel related case is when someone travels to an area where dengue transmission is occurring, is bitten by a mosquito there, and then returns home infected.

A locally acquired case is when a person has not traveled and is bitten by a mosquito where they live or work.

Locally acquired cases are more concerning because it means the virus is circulating in the local mosquito population.