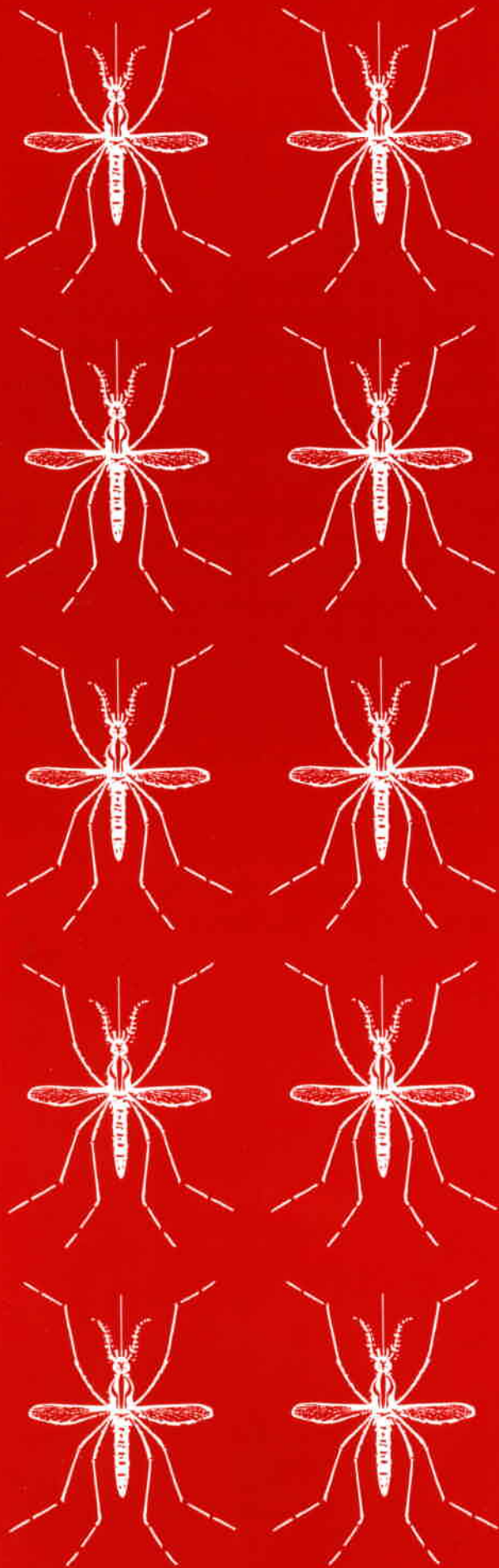


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**Dengue
and Dengue
Hemorrhagic
Fever in the
Americas:
Guidelines
for Prevention
and Control**

PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION



Dengue and its potentially fatal forms, dengue hemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome, once more threaten much of the Region. Although the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, the disease's main vector, was once virtually eradicated from the Americas, nearly all the countries were reinfected and suffered epidemics in the 1980s. As vector control programs fell victim to that decade's cutbacks in public health expenditures, the programs were left with scanty surveillance capabilities, and their response to dengue outbreaks tended to be too little too late. Moreover, the vertically structured traditional control programs in most countries were costly and difficult to manage. Clearly, a new approach was needed.

These guidelines have risen to that challenge by incorporating all aspects of the prevention and control of the disease and its vectors. In addition, because dengue is primarily a problem of domestic sanitation and household members can combat the problem inexpensively through physical means and without overusing chemicals, these guidelines emphasize ways to transfer the responsibility, capability, and motivation for dengue control and prevention to the community.

Prepared by experts in aspects of dengue prevention and control from the Region and by several PAHO staff members, this publication fills a critical niche in the fight against dengue in the Americas, and is an invaluable tool for health professionals working in vector control.



Pan American Health Organization
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