

Harris County  
**HCPHES**  
Public Health & Environmental Services

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**PRESS RELEASE / MEDIA AVAILABILITY**

**WHEN:** July 11, 2014  
3:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.

**WHERE:** 2223 West Loop South  
4th Floor Conference Room – Room 416

**WHO:** Interview availability:  
Umair A. Shah, M.D., M.P.H.  
Executive Director, HCPHES

Mustapha Debboun, Ph.D., BCE  
Director, HCPHES Mosquito Control Division

**WHAT:** **Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services (HCPHES) confirms first case of Chikungunya in Harris County** resident with recent international travel.

“Many of our residents travel abroad for pleasure and business, so we’re not surprised to learn that someone from our area has been infected with Chikungunya. Prevention remains key,” said Dr. Shah.

Preventive measure include using mosquito repellents, covering exposed arms and legs, making sure to empty containers with standing water, etc.

People who have travelled abroad and have developed a fever, joint pains or a rash within two weeks of their trip should see their health care provider and report their recent travel.

People become infected with Chikungunya through the bite of infected *Aedes* mosquitoes, which bite during the day. Chikungunya is not spread from person-to-person contact.

For more information, contact Rita Obey at 713.439.6293 or Martha Marquez at 713.439.6193 or visit our website at [www.hcphe.org](http://www.hcphe.org).

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