



NEWS RELEASE

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***Chicago Med* Actor Helping Raise Awareness Of Zika Virus In Illinois**

Brian Tee hits the airwaves with Zika information

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is excited to launch its newest Zika virus awareness campaign with Brian Tee, known as Dr. Ethan Choi on the TV Series *Chicago Med*, or from *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows*, *Jurassic World*, *The Wolverine*, and *Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift*.

Brian Tee and his wife recently welcomed a baby girl into their family and she has become the center of their world. It was his love for his newborn baby and the knowledge that Zika virus can cause birth defects that prompted Brian to speak out.

In his role as a doctor on TV, and as a parent, Brian is hoping to shine a spotlight on the public health concerns of Zika virus and what people can do to prevent the infection of unborn babies who may suffer birth defects. In the radio and TV spots, Brian explains that Zika virus can be passed from a pregnant woman to her fetus, which could result in birth defects.

“I am excited that Brian Tee has joined our Zika virus education campaign to help prevent Zika related birth defects,” said IDPH Director Nirav D. Shah, M.D., J.D. “Most people infected with Zika virus don’t have symptoms. Therefore, a person may be infected with Zika and unknowingly pass it to a pregnant woman through sex, who could then pass it to her unborn baby.”

The new spots started airing statewide in cooperation with the Illinois Broadcasters Association (IBA) Public Education Partnership (PEP) program. The spots will air on more than 200 Illinois radio stations and IBA member TV stations.

For more information on [Zika virus](#), go www.dph.illinois.gov.

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