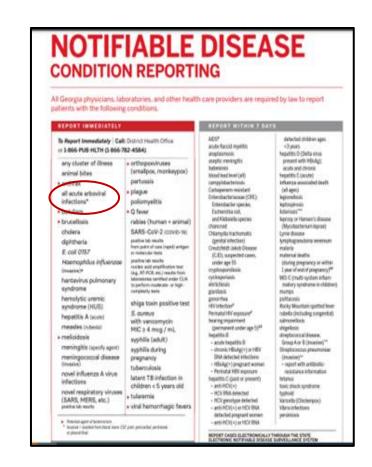
Dengue Surveillance: State Health Department Perspective

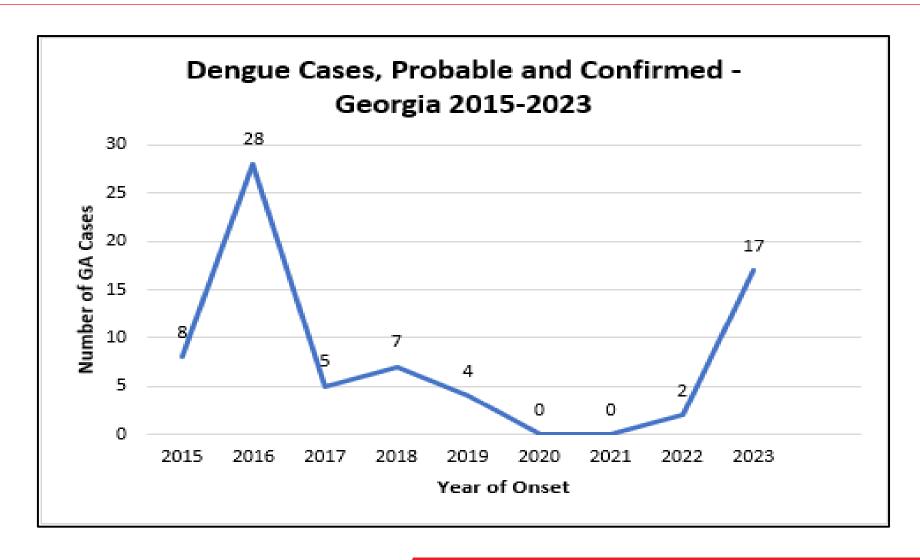
Cherie Drenzek, DVM, MS

Dengue Surveillance: State Health Department Perspective

- Dengue is a notifiable condition nationally and in Georgia.
- Many southern (and some Western) states have Aedes mosquito populations (dengue vector).
- However, locally-acquired dengue infections on the U.S. mainland are very rare (Florida primarily, but also Texas, Arizona, California)
- Almost all reported cases in the U.S. are travel-associated. In fact, Georgia has never documented a locally-acquired case of dengue.
- Travel-associated dengue cases are rising.
- For Georgia DPH, our concern "big picture" is that people who contract the dengue flavivirus via travel can introduce the virus to local mosquito populations here.



Dengue Surveillance: Context, Bias, Improvements



Improved Dengue Surveillance: Foundation of Prevention and Control

- As we saw with dengue surveillance during the Zika and COVID epidemics, we are likely not capturing all dengue cases in the U.S.
- Robust dengue surveillance is key for clinical treatment and to prevent local transmission here
- <u>Improvements include</u>:
 - Increased awareness and testing of travelers from endemic areas
 - Increased Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) of cases
 - Allows increased opportunities to investigate cases earlier, to detect local transmission or outbreaks earlier, and to have data that more accurately reflect trends.