

## Dengue Fever Claims Lives In Trinidad And Tobago

Dengue fever has claimed the lives of three people in the twin island republic of Trinidad and Tobago and left another 600 dead.

Chief Medical Officer, Dr Anton Cumberbatch, said over the weekend that the country is also testing to see if the disease was responsible for two other deaths.

But he urged nationals not to panic, insisting that the Health Ministry had already `ramped up` the efforts to eradicate the aedes aegypti mosquito which spreads the deadly dengue virus.

Dengue Fever is also known as `break bone fever,` since it can be extremely painful. It occurs widely in the tropics. The WHO says some 2.5 billion people, two fifths of the world`s population, are now at risk from dengue and estimates that there may be 50 million cases of dengue infection worldwide every year. The disease is now endemic in more than 100 countries.

The disease manifests as fever of sudden onset associated with headache, muscle and joint pains that gives it the nickname break-bone fever or bonecrusher disease, distinctive retro-orbital pain, and rash.