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Spinal Cord, Spinal Root, and Brain MRI Abnormalities in Congenital Zika Syndrome

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The recent article “Spectrum of Spinal Cord, Spinal Root, and Brain MRI Abnormalities in Congenital Zika Syndrome with and without Arthrogryposis” is very interesting.¹ Aragao et al¹ concluded that “Most infants had some degree of spinal cord thickness reduction, predominant in the thoracic segment (without arthrogryposis) or in the entire spinal cord (with arthrogryposis).” We would like to share ideas and observations from tropical Asia, where the Zika virus infection is also endemic. Although the neurologic defect is common in the affected infants in tropical America, it is rarely seen among the affected infants in tropical Asia.² Most affected cases in Southeast Asia are asymptomatic, and there is no abnormality in spinal or brain MR imaging.³

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