

Zika Virus Update: Zika Diagnosis in Pregnant Women

All pregnant women in the United States should be assessed for possible Zika virus exposure during each prenatal visit, by taking a careful travel and sexual exposure history. Pregnant women should be counseled to avoid travel to areas of Zika virus transmission.

<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/active-countries.html>

Pregnant women with exposure to Zika virus are at risks for poor pregnancy outcomes including microcephaly, birth defects, and other complications such as hearing loss, vision loss, intellectual disability, seizures, or death of the fetus. http://www.cdc.gov/zika/healtheffects/birth_defects.html

There is no vaccine or treatment for Zika virus. The only way to prevent infection is by avoiding travel to Zika affected areas and unprotected sex with those who have travelled to Zika affected areas. Pregnant women who cannot avoid travel to Zika affected areas should avoid mosquitoes and wear insect repellent to prevent infection.

Update on Sensitivity of PCR for Zika Virus Detection

A comparison of reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) test results for urine and serum specimens from 53 persons with Zika virus disease with both urine and serum specimens collected on the same date identified infection in 49 (92%) urine specimens, and 27 (51%) serum specimens. **Based on this information, public health recommends collection of urine, serum and whole blood for PCR diagnosis of Zika in pregnant women within two weeks of symptom onset.**

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6518e2.htm>

Zika Laboratory Testing and Results

Pregnant women who have been exposed to a Zika affected area or who had unprotected sex with someone who travelled to a Zika affected area will be prioritized for testing by public health.

<2 weeks since travel/exposure with or without symptoms	2-12 weeks since travel/exposure with or without symptoms
<p><u>Collect serum, urine, and whole blood for PCR</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If PCR positive, CONFIRMED ZIKA • If PCR negative, then <i>test by IgM</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If IgM positive, then <i>test by PRNT</i> ○ If IgM negative, NOT ZIKA 	<p><u>Collect serum for IgM</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If IgM negative, NOT ZIKA • If IgM positive, then <i>test by PCR</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If PCR negative, then <i>test by PRNT</i> ○ If PCR positive, CONFIRMED ZIKA
<p><i>Healthcare providers should consult with local public health for patients that may not fit above criteria.</i></p>	

All suspected cases should be reported immediately; please call (602) 506-6767 to report.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/mosquito-borne/zika/zika-healthcare-provider-algorithms.pdf> or <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/index.html>