

Health Advisory: Zika Testing Update

Minnesota Department of Health Feb 24, 2016 13:00 CST

Action Steps:

Local and tribal health departments: Please forward to hospitals and clinics in your jurisdiction.

Hospitals and clinics: Please distribute to anyone caring for returning travelers, especially pregnant women.

Healthcare providers:

- You must contact MDH before submitting specimens for Zika testing by calling 651-201-5414 or 1-877-676-5414.
- You may submit urine specimens, if available, in addition to serum specimens.

Testing Criteria for Patients Exposed to Zika Virus

MDH is currently accepting specimens for patients with at least two of the four primary symptoms of Zika virus (fever, rash, arthralgia, or conjunctivitis) and a history of travel within the previous two weeks to Countries and Territories with Active Zika Virus Transmission (<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/active-countries.html>). Asymptomatic pregnant women with a history of travel within 12 weeks to affected areas may also be tested.

Specimen Submission

Providers wishing to order testing must contact MDH at 651-201-5414 or 1-877-676-5414 prior to submitting specimens. If patients meet testing criteria, serum specimens should be submitted. If available, urine specimens may be submitted in addition to serum. Results will not be reported at this time for urine specimens.

Cases in Minnesota

MDH has identified three cases of Zika virus disease to date in Minnesota residents. All of the cases reported travel to affected areas and all have recovered.

Updated CDC Guidance on Zika Virus Infection (CDC Zika Virus Website <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/>)

The CDC website provides timely and comprehensive information on Zika virus. Check often for updates, which currently include:

- Interim Guidelines for Health Care Providers Caring for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age with Possible Zika Virus Exposure (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6505e2.htm>) – February 12, 2016
- Interim Guidelines for Health Care Providers Caring for Infants and Children with Possible Zika Virus Infection (http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6507e1er.htm?s_cid=mm6507e1.htm_w) – February 19, 2016
- Interim Guidelines for Prevention of Sexual Transmission of Zika Virus (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6505e1.htm>) – February 12, 2016

A copy of this HAN is available in PDF and Word format at www.health.state.mn.us/han/.

The content of this message is intended for public health and health care personnel and response partners who have a need to know the information to perform their duties. It is for official use only. Do not distribute beyond the intended recipient groups as described in the action items of this message.