



# COUNTY OF YOLO

Health and Human Services Agency

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## Health Alert

### Zika Virus Update for Healthcare Providers

February 16, 2016

#### **Situation**

On January 28, 2016 an initial Yolo County Health Alert was issued to all health care providers providing a situational update, California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommendations, and requested actions by clinicians. (<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/Zika.aspx> )

On February 5, 2016, The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released two new interim guidelines on Zika, one for prevention of sexual transmission and the other for healthcare providers caring for women and women of reproductive age. (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6505e1.htm> )

The CDC updated guidelines recommend that all asymptomatic pregnant women who traveled to areas with ongoing Zika virus transmission be offered serologic testing. The guidelines present a simplified algorithm for testing. In pregnant women, a negative IgM result obtained 2–12 weeks after travel would suggest that a recent infection did not occur and could obviate the need for serial ultrasounds. Pregnant women with a negative Zika virus IgM test should receive routine prenatal care. (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6505e2.htm>)

Information regarding Zika virus is rapidly changing. To help guide your practice and knowledge, please refer to <http://www.cdc.gov/zika>.

#### **Actions requested of providers**

- Test for Zika virus as recommended.
- Advise pregnant women to postpone travel to areas of ongoing Zika virus transmission.
- Advise all persons traveling to areas of ongoing Zika virus transmission to strictly follow steps to avoid mosquito bites.

#### **Testing Information**

- All pregnant women with a history of travel to a Zika-affected area regardless of symptoms should be tested within 2-12 weeks of return from travel.
- Infants with microcephaly whose mothers traveled to or resided in an area with ongoing Zika virus transmission during their pregnancy.
- All infants born to mothers with positive or inconclusive test results for Zika virus infection should be tested.
- Non-pregnant patients with compatible symptoms (two or more of: fever, maculopapular rash, arthralgia, or non-purulent conjunctivitis) and history of travel to a Zika-affected area should be considered for testing.

- Patients diagnosed with Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS) with a history of travel to a Zika-affected area should be considered for testing as well as other known causes of GBS.
- Testing is not recommended for asymptomatic non-pregnant persons.
- All Zika virus testing must be coordinated and approved by Yolo County Health Department which will provide the test submission form and advice on specimen collection, storage and shipping.
- Test results can take up to two weeks and may be delayed due to the volume of requests.

NOTE: Priority will be given to specimens from pregnant women and infants with microcephaly.

**Providers should have the following patient information ready before contacting Yolo County Community Health (Health Department):**

- Dates of travel and country/countries of travel
- Symptoms; date of onset
- If pregnant, gestational age
- History of previous infection with dengue, Chikungunya or West Nile virus, and history of vaccination for Yellow Fever or Japanese encephalitis

**For Zika consultation or to report a suspected case**

Yolo County Community Health (Health Department):

- Weekdays 8:30 am-5:00 pm call 530-666-8670
- Non-business hours (evenings, weekends and holidays) call 530-321-3620
- Report suspect cases of on standard Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR) form by confidential fax 530-669-1549 or online using the CalREDIE portal. Please include symptom onset date (if any), travel dates, and countries visited.

**Additional Resources on Zika Virus**

**CDC**

- Zika homepage: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika>
- CDC travel notices: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>

**CDPH**

- Zika Laboratory  
[https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/vrdl/Documents/Zika\\_Testing\\_VRDL\\_Quicksheet\\_021016.pdf](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/vrdl/Documents/Zika_Testing_VRDL_Quicksheet_021016.pdf)
- Zika: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/Zika.aspx>

This Health Update was sent by Dr. Ron Chapman, Health Officer, Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency.