

## ZIKA TESTING GUIDANCE

### Patients that should be tested:

Signs and symptoms of Zika virus infection include maculopapular rash, fever, arthralgia, conjunctivitis, or findings consistent with Guillan-Barre´ Syndrome. While many people infected with Zika virus have no symptoms, those who do develop symptoms experience onset within two weeks of exposure. Exposure to Zika virus may occur during travel to an area with local mosquito-borne Zika virus transmission or after unprotected sex with a man or woman who has traveled to an area with Zika virus transmission. **Note: Testing must be pre-approved by Communicable Disease, please call 805-981-5201 for suspect Zika virus infection.**

### Available tests:

Arbovirus PCR for symptomatic and asymptomatic pregnant women  
Arbovirus IgM serology for symptomatic, asymptomatic pregnant women, and asymptomatic men and women  
All specimens will be tested for Zika, Dengue, Chikungunya viruses

### When to collect and what to collect:

#### Arbovirus PCR

Type of patient	Type of Specimen			
	Serum (5 mL)	Urine (2 mL)*	CSF (1 mL)*	Amniotic Fluid (1 mL)*
Symptomatic	Within 7 days of onset illness	Within 21 days of onset illness	Within 7 days of onset illness	Within 21 days of onset illness
Asymptomatic pregnant women	Within 14 days of exposure	Within 14 days of exposure	Testing not indicated	Testing not indicated
Asymptomatic men and women	Testing not indicated	Testing not indicated	Testing not indicated	Testing not indicated

\*Urine, CSF, and amniotic fluid **must** be accompanied by a serum.

Note: Negative Zika virus results will be automatically reflexed to Arbovirus IgM per CDC recommendations.

#### Arbovirus IgM serology

Type of patient	Serum Specimen Only (5 mL)
Symptomatic*	Within 2-12 weeks of onset illness
Asymptomatic pregnant women	Within 2-12 weeks of exposure
Asymptomatic men and women	Within 2-12 weeks of exposure

\*If initial IgM testing is negative and Zika is strongly suspected, a second convalescent serum should be collected.

Note: IgM antibodies against Zika virus, dengue viruses, and other flaviviruses (ie. Yellow fever, West Nile virus) can cross-react possibly generating false positive results in serological tests; therefore, all IgM positive samples will be reflexed to Arbovirus PCR and /or PRNT serology to discriminate among these viruses per CDC recommendations.

### Specimen storage and shipping:

Store all specimens at 4°C. Ship on cold pack within 24-72 hours.

**Before ordering an Arbovirus test, Communicable Disease must approve testing, please call 805-981-5201 for suspect Zika virus infection. For laboratory questions please call 805-981-5131.**