



PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

April 26, 2016

Steven M. Neuhaus
County Executive

Eli N. Avila, MD, JD, MPH, FCLM
Commissioner of Health

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO PEDIATRIC, FAMILY PRACTICE, PRIMARY CARE, EMERGENCY ROOM, INTERNAL MEDICINE, INFECTIOUS DISEASE, OB/GYN AND AMBULATORY CARE STAFF.

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT #2 **ZIKA VIRUS TESTING PROTOCOL**

As of April 20, 2016, CDC has reported 388 travel-associated cases of Zika Virus and over 500 cases of local transmission in the U.S. Territories. Signs and symptoms of Zika virus include fever, rash, joint pain, or conjunctivitis. About 1 in 5 people become ill; with mild symptoms lasting several days to a week. Diagnosis of Zika virus is based on both molecular tests and serology.

Zika Virus testing is available for patients meeting the following criteria:

- Pregnant women who traveled to an area with active mosquito-borne transmission of Zika virus at any point during their pregnancy*.
- Pregnant women who, during pregnancy, had unprotected vaginal, anal or oral sex with a sex partner who traveled to an area with active mosquito-borne transmission of Zika virus regardless of whether the sex partner had symptoms consistent with Zika virus infection.
- Persons who traveled to an area with active mosquito-borne transmission of Zika virus and who present with Guillain-Barré syndrome.
- Infants with microcephaly or intracranial calcifications born to women who traveled to an area with active mosquito-borne transmission of Zika virus while pregnant.
- Non-pregnant women, children or men who develop Zika compatible symptoms within 4 weeks of return from travel to an area with active mosquito-borne transmission of Zika virus

Hospitals and providers **must** contact the Orange County Department of Health Nursing Division at 845-291-2330 for testing authorization. Testing results will be provided to the ordering health care professional from the Orange County Department of Health.

*A list of countries with active Zika Virus transmission is continuously updated on CDC's website found here: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/index.html>.

Pregnant women should not travel to any area where Zika virus transmission is ongoing. Pregnant women and couples trying to become pregnant who do travel to one of these areas should talk to their healthcare providers first and strictly follow steps to avoid mosquito bites.

For additional information – visit <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html> or www.orangecountygov.com/health in the Health Professional's Corner for links to CDC's complete health advisory and interim clinical guidance for pregnant women

Please report any suspect cases to Orange County Department of Health at 845-291-2330