

HEALTH UPDATE



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

REGION IV PUBLIC HEALTH

Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum
counties and Cowlitz Tribe

TO: Physicians and other Healthcare Providers

Please distribute a copy of this information to each provider in your organization.

Questions regarding this information may be directed to the following Region IV health officers:

Alan Melnick, MD, MPH, CPH

Clark County Public Health, (360) 397-8412

Sarah D. Present MD, MPH

Skamania County Community Health, (509) 427-3850

Wahkiakum County Health & Human Services, (360) 795-6207

Jennifer Vines, MD, MPH

Cowlitz County Health & Human Services, (360) 414-5599

Alert categories:
Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.

Summary

A nonpregnant women engaged in condomless sex with her male partner after returning to New York (day 0) from travel to an area with ongoing Zika virus transmission. The following day (day 1) she developed symptoms consistent with Zika virus infection. On day 3, Zika virus RNA was detected in both serum and urine samples by real-time reverse transcription–polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR). Her male partner also developed symptoms consistent with Zika virus 7 days after the sexual intercourse, and also tested positive for Zika virus.

This case represents the first reported occurrence of female-to-male sexual transmission of Zika virus. Current guidance to prevent sexual transmission of Zika virus is based on the assumption that transmission occurs from a male partner to a receptive partner. Ongoing surveillance is needed to determine risk for transmission of Zika virus infection from a female to her sexual partners.

Full CDC article:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6528e2.htm?s_cid=mm6528e2

Recommendation

Providers should report to their local health department any patients with illnesses compatible with Zika virus disease who do not have a history of travel to an area with ongoing Zika virus transmission, but who had a sexual exposure to a partner who did travel.

Persons who want to reduce the risk for sexual transmission of Zika virus should abstain from sex or correctly and consistently use condoms for vaginal, anal, and oral sex, as recommended in the current CDC guidance (5). Guidance on prevention of sexual transmission of Zika virus, including other methods of barrier protection, will be updated as additional information becomes available (<http://www.cdc.gov/zika>).

To arrange for Zika testing

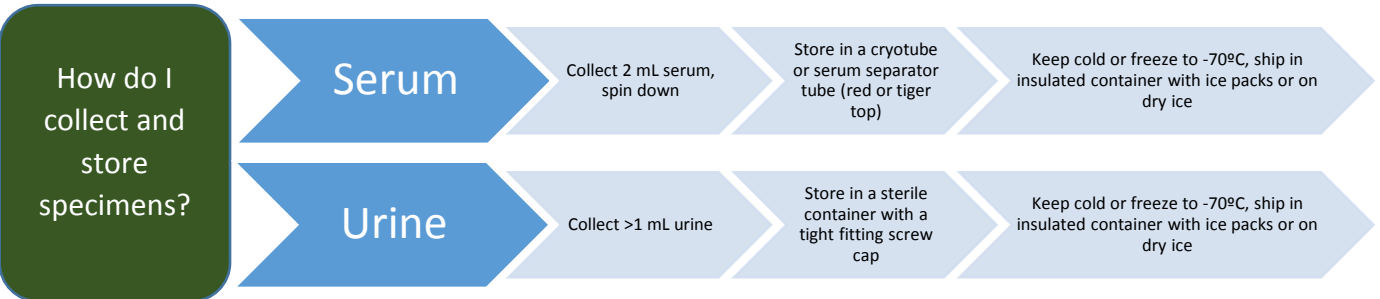
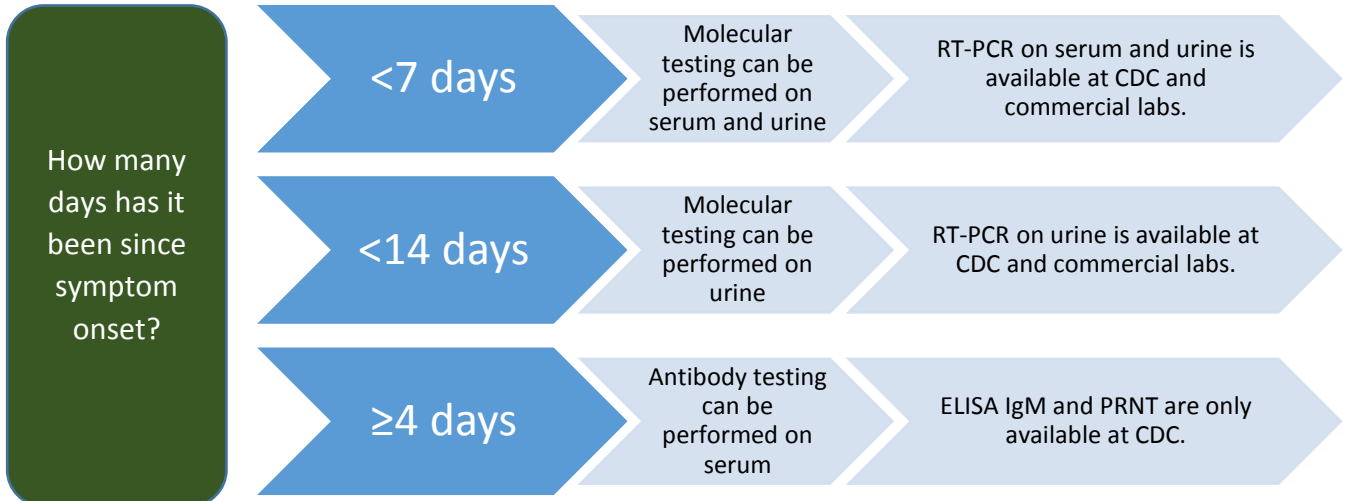
Call your local health department (LHD) to determine if a patient meets the criteria to be tested through CDC. Before calling, obtain travel history, including dates of travel from the patient. For symptomatic patients, consider ordering commercial dengue and chikungunya testing.

For more information on testing please refer to the enclosed Department of Health Zika Testing algorithm or call your LHD for details:

- Clark County Public Health: (360) 397-8182
- Cowlitz County Health Department: (360) 414-5599
- Skamania County Community Health: (509) 427-3850
- Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services: (360) 795-6207

Information for providers ordering Zika virus testing

I've reviewed Zika virus testing criteria and I have a symptomatic patient with potential Zika virus exposure. What now?



I've reviewed Zika virus testing criteria and I have an asymptomatic pregnant woman with potential Zika virus exposure. What now?

