

HEALTH ADVISORY



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

- Molecular testing for Zika virus RNA in urine by RT-PCR is now available through the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and commercial laboratories. RT-PCR on urine should be considered when Zika disease is suspected, and ordered in conjunction with RT-PCR on serum when appropriate.
- The CDC has new recommendations for subsequent Zika IgM ELISA antibody testing for patients being tested for Zika virus by RT-PCR. Because of the decline in the level of viremia over time and possible inaccuracy in reporting of dates of illness onset, **a negative RT-PCR result does not rule out infection**. Patients with negative RT-PCR results through commercial labs should also be tested for Zika IgM through CDC.

Recommendations

- CDC recommends that Zika virus RT-PCR be performed on urine collected <14 days after onset of symptoms in patients with suspected Zika virus disease. Zika virus RT-PCR testing of urine should be performed in conjunction with serum testing if using specimens collected <7 days after symptom onset. A positive result in either specimen type provides evidence of Zika virus infection.
- Commercial laboratories that offer RT-PCR testing currently do not provide Zika IgM ELISA testing and have no routine process to forward specimens to another testing laboratory. When requesting Zika RT-PCR testing from a commercial laboratory, providers should retain an aliquot of the serum for Zika IgM ELISA testing at CDC if the RT-PCR testing is negative.
- Blood should be collected and processed per routine guidelines (collected in a serum separator tube with serum aliquots transferred to new vials), and one of the serum aliquots should be stored in a refrigerator (2-8°C) until it is known if additional IgM testing is indicated. If a serum aliquot cannot be stored or is not available, but further testing is indicated, a new blood sample should be collected. Serum samples for IgM testing should be collected from patients within 12 weeks of symptom onset. Providers should contact their local health department to discuss IgM testing of stored or newly collected serum from patients who are RT-PCR negative.

Additional Resources:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6518e1.htm>

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6521e1.htm?s_cid=mm6521e1_w

For questions or to request testing through CDC, please contact:

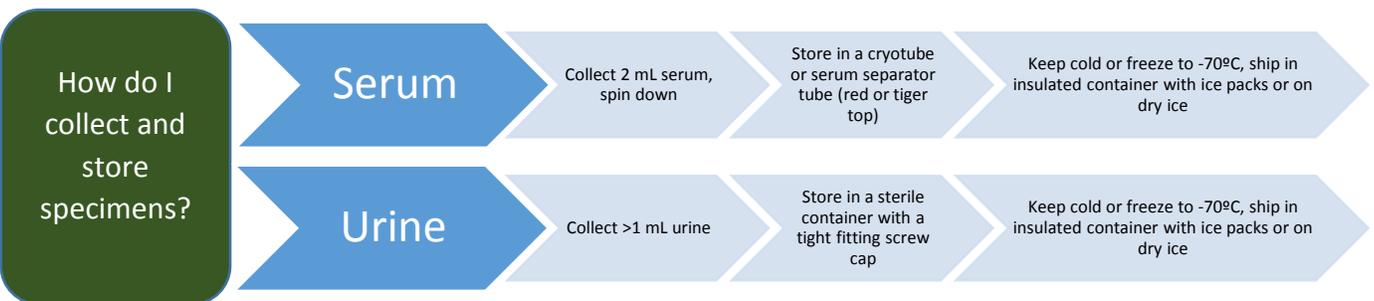
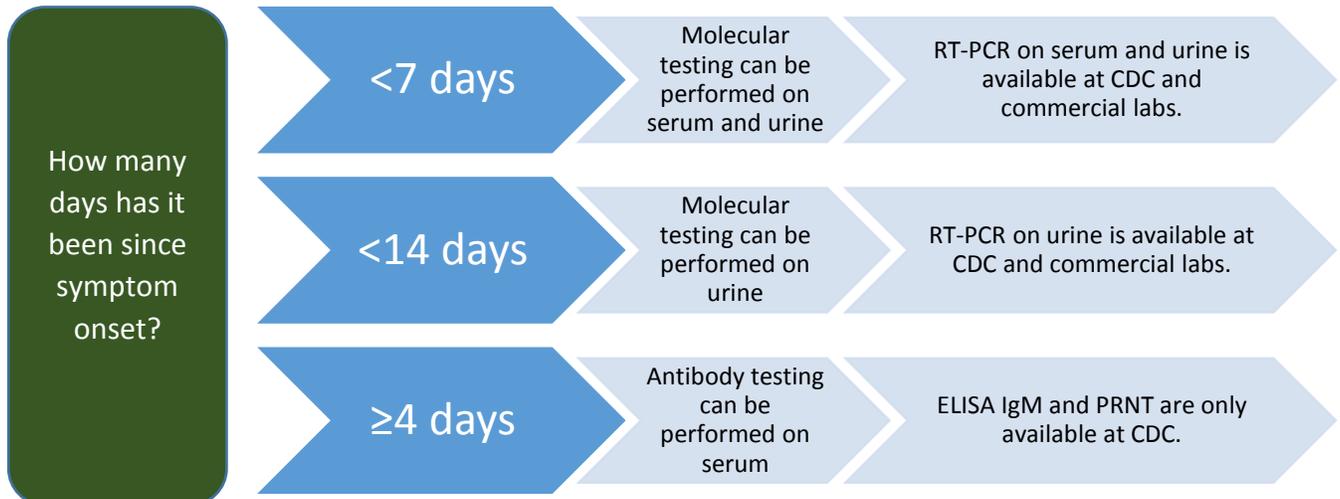
- Clark County Public Health: (360) 397-8182.
- Cowlitz County Health Department: (360) 414-5599
- Skamania County Community Health: (509) 427-3850
- Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services (360) 795-6207

Thank you for your partnership.

To subscribe or unsubscribe from this listserv, email: Tippy.Hartford@clark.wa.gov

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?

