



Zika, Chikungunya and Dengue Viruses

Please share with your healthcare colleagues

- ❑ Zika, Chikungunya and Dengue viruses are transmitted by the same mosquitoes and circulate in the same geographical area. It is also difficult to distinguish between viruses based on clinical findings alone.
- ❑ Healthcare providers must report all suspected arboviral disease cases (including Chikungunya, Dengue, Zika, West Nile virus and others) to the Louisiana Office of Public Health, Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section (IDEpi) to facilitate diagnosis and to mitigate the risk of local transmission.
- ❑ IDEpi will determine whether testing is indicated and will coordinate testing and transportation of specimens including proper collection, storage, shipping and the appropriate submission forms.
- ❑ All specimens need approval by IDEpi BEFORE submitting specimens for testing.
- ❑ Immediately notify your Surveillance Epidemiologist with the Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section or call at 800-256-2748 to discuss a possible exposure, report a suspected case, arrange for laboratory testing and transportation of specimens.
- ❑ At this time, testing for Zika is not available through commercial laboratories. Patients approved by IDEpi will be tested for Chikungunya, Dengue, Zika viruses. Available tests include RT-PCR and IgM serologic testing. The test type for symptomatic patients will be determined by the number of days between onset of illness and date of specimen collection.
- ❑ It would be helpful for a provider to collect the following information for each suspect patient prior to calling IDEpi:
 - Symptoms
 - Date of onset of illness
 - Country of travel
 - Travel dates to and from
 - Week of gestation (if pregnant)
 - History of previous infection with Dengue, Chikungunya or West Nile virus or
 - History of Yellow Fever vaccination
- ❑ Advise travelers to affected areas to take precautions to prevent infection by avoiding mosquito bites.

The following guidance documents provide additional information about clinical presentation and patient management:

- ❑ Zika virus Information for Clinicians <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/index.html>
- ❑ Interim Guidelines for Pregnant Women During a Zika Virus Outbreak — United States, 2016 <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6502e1.htm>
- ❑ Interim Guidelines for the Evaluation and Testing of Infants with Possible Congenital Zika Virus Infection — United States, 2016 http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6503e3er.htm?s_cid=mm6503e3er.htm