

Health Update:

Update 1: Zika Virus Infections

January 20, 2016

This document will be updated as new information becomes available. The current version can always be viewed at <http://www.health.mo.gov>

The Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) is now using 4 types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals, and to other interested persons:

Health Alerts convey information of the highest level of importance which warrants immediate action or attention from Missouri health providers, emergency responders, public health agencies or the public.

Health Advisories provide important information for a specific incident or situation, including that impacting neighboring states; may not require immediate action.

Health Guidances contain comprehensive information pertaining to a particular disease or condition, and include recommendations, guidelines, etc. endorsed by DHSS.

Health Updates provide new or updated information on an incident or situation; can also provide information to update a previously sent Health Alert, Health Advisory, or Health Guidance; unlikely to require immediate action.

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FROM: PETER LYSKOWSKI
ACTING DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Update 1: Zika Virus Infections

On January 15, 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a Health Advisory via the Health Alert Network (HAN) entitled, "Recognizing, Managing, and Reporting Zika Virus Infections in Travelers Returning from Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Mexico" (CDC HAN-00385). On January 16, 2016, via the Missouri Health Notification System, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) forwarded this CDC Health Advisory along with additional reporting and testing information specific to Missouri medical providers and local public health agencies. This notification is available at:

<http://www.health.mo.gov/emergencies/ert/alertsadvisories/pdf/cdcHAD11616.pdf>

Following the Health Advisory release, CDC provided additional information related to Zika virus infection:

1. Interim Guidelines for Pregnant Women During a Zika Virus Outbreak – United States, 2016. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, Early Release/January 19, 2016/65(2); 1-4. These guidelines include recommendations for pregnant women considering travel to an area with Zika virus transmission, and recommendations for screening, testing, and management of pregnant returning travelers. They are available at: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6502e1er.htm?s_cid=mm6502e1er_e
2. Updated Diagnostic Testing for Zika, Chikungunya, and Dengue Viruses in US Public Health Laboratories. CDC Memorandum, January 13, 2016. This document provides updated guidelines for conducting diagnostic testing for Zika, chikungunya, and dengue viruses. It is available at:

http://www.afpl.org/Materials/CDCMemo_Zika_Chik_Deng_Testing_011916.pdf

Please remember that submission of specimens for Zika, chikungunya, and dengue virus testing requires prior approval by DHSS as described on pages 4-5 of the CDC Health Advisory with additional Missouri-specific information noted above
(<http://www.health.mo.gov/emergencies/ert/alertsadvisories/pdf/cdcHAD11616.pdf>).

For More Information

- General information about Zika virus and disease (CDC):
<http://www.cdc.gov/zika>
- Countries and territories with Zika autochthonous transmission reported in the Americas (Pan American Health Organization):
http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=article&id=427&Itemid=41484&lang=en

Questions Regarding This Health Update

Direct questions to DHSS' Office of Veterinary Public Health, Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM, 573/526-4780; after hours/weekends, 800/392-0272.

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