

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
2016 – PAHAN – 344 – 07-20-2016 – ADV
Zika Virus Testing Guidance



DATE:	July 20, 2016
TO:	Health Alert Network
FROM:	Karen M. Murphy, PhD, RN Secretary of Health
SUBJECT:	Zika Virus Testing Guidance
DISTRIBUTION:	Statewide
LOCATION:	n/a
STREET ADDRESS:	n/a
COUNTY:	n/a
MUNICIPALITY:	n/a
ZIP CODE:	n/a

This transmission is a “Health Advisory” that provides important information for a specific incident or situation; it may not require immediate action.

HOSPITALS: PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL MEDICAL, PEDIATRIC, INFECTION CONTROL, NURSING AND LABORATORY STAFF IN YOUR HOSPITAL.

EMS COUNCILS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE.

FQHCs: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE.

LOCAL HEALTH JURISDICTIONS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

Due to the recent availability of commercial options for Zika virus testing and new information about modes of Zika transmission, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) is distributing the following Zika testing guidance to health care providers (please see attachment). Included are guidelines on who to test, what specimens to collect, which tests should be ordered, and how to interpret test results. Please remember that all arbovirus infections (e.g., infections due to West Nile, dengue, chikungunya, Zika, etc.) are reportable within 24 hours in Pennsylvania. For questions, please call your local health department or DOH at 1-877-PA-HEALTH.

Categories of Health Alert messages:

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; unlikely to require immediate action.

This information is current as of July 20, 2016, but may be modified in the future.