



Technical Bulletin

Division of Public and Behavioral Health



Date: January 2016

Topic: Zika Virus

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To: Health Care Providers

Current Situation:

- May of 2015, the WHO reported the first local transmission of Zika virus (ZIKV) within the Western Hemisphere.
- Cases have been identified throughout much of the Caribbean, Central and South America.
- Nevada has not had any cases of Zika virus reported in 2015/2016 to date.
- There have been a few confirmed infections in travelers returning to the U.S. from the affected regions listed.

Transmission:

- Zika virus is vector borne by mosquito bites (*Aedes* species).
- Could possibly be transmitted mother to baby during pregnancy.
- Could possibly be transmitted through infected blood or sexual contact.

Clinical Signs and Symptoms:

- Incubation period about 2 to 7 days, and can be up to 14 days.
- Approximately one in five persons (20%) who are infected with Zika virus develop clinical illness or symptoms.
- Symptomatic persons experience a febrile illness: Fever (>99° F.), Rash, Joint Pain, Conjunctivitis.
- The illness associated with Zika virus infection is often mild in nature, and can last from several days to a week.
- Recent data from South America (e.g. current outbreak in Brazil) reveal a possible association between this virus and a marked increase in the number of infants born with microcephaly.

Diagnosis:

- Zika virus disease should be considered in any person with a febrile illness, including, but not limited to, persons with recent travel history to the Caribbean, Central or South America with exposure to mosquitoes in those regions.
- Should also be considered in suspected cases of any infant born to a mother infected with Zika virus during any point in her pregnancy.

Treatment:

- There is no specific treatment for Zika virus infection other than palliative care (e.g. bed rest, hydration, fever and pain reduction medications, etc.).

Prevention:

- There is no vaccines available for Zika virus.
- Community-level mosquito control programs, personal protective measures to decrease exposure to infected mosquitoes, e.g. use of DEET and wearing long sleeve shirts, and screening of blood and organ donors.

For More Information:

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health: 775.684.5911

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html>

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