



THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



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* HEALTH ALERT *

To: All Chester County Healthcare Providers
Date: Friday, February 05, 2016
Subject: **UPDATED: TESTING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POSSIBLE ZIKA VIRUS EXPOSURE for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age**

The Chester County Health Department encourages you to review the CDC Update: Interim Guidelines for Health Care Providers Caring for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age with Possible Zika Virus Exposure. These guidelines include new testing recommendations and can be found at:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6505e2er.htm?s_cid=mm6505e2er_e

What is different in these updated guidelines?

- A new recommendation to offer serologic testing to asymptomatic pregnant women who have traveled to areas with ongoing transmission of Zika virus.
 - Testing should be offered between 2 and 12 weeks after pregnant women return from travel to areas with ongoing Zika virus transmission.

CDC also continues to advise testing for:

- Pregnant women with a history of travel to an area with Zika virus transmission and who report two or more symptoms consistent with Zika virus disease (including acute onset of fever, maculopapular rash, arthralgia or conjunctivitis) during or within two weeks of travel.
- Pregnant women with a history of travel to an area with Zika virus transmission and who have ultrasound findings of fetal microcephaly or intracranial calcifications.

If you suspect Zika virus infection in a patient, contact Disease Investigation and Surveillance at the Chester County Health Department at 610-344-6452 for guidance on serum specimen collection and testing pre-authorization.

Resources: Questions and Answers for Healthcare Providers Caring for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age with Possible Zika Virus Exposure <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/qa-pregnant-women.html>