

Health Update:

Update 5: Zika Virus Infections – Updates on Cases in Pregnant Women and on Sexual Transmission

February 29, 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.

Health Update
February 29, 2016

**FROM: PETER LYSKOWSKI
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SUBJECT: Update 5: Zika Virus Infections – Updates on Cases in Pregnant Women and on Sexual Transmission

NEW! On February 26, 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released, *Zika Virus Infection Among U.S. Pregnant Travelers — August 2015–February 2016*, which is available at:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6508e1er.htm?s_cid=mm6508e1er.htm_w

After reports of microcephaly and other adverse pregnancy outcomes in infants of mothers infected with Zika virus during pregnancy, CDC issued a travel alert on January 15, 2016, advising pregnant women to consider postponing travel to areas with active transmission of Zika virus. On January 19, CDC released interim guidelines for U.S. health care providers caring for pregnant women with travel to an affected area, and an update was released on February 5.

As of February 17, CDC had received reports of nine pregnant travelers with laboratory-confirmed Zika virus disease; 10 additional reports of Zika virus disease among pregnant women are currently under investigation. No Zika virus-related hospitalizations or deaths among pregnant women were reported. Pregnancy outcomes among the nine confirmed cases included two early pregnancy losses, two elective terminations, and three live births (two apparently healthy infants and one infant with severe microcephaly); two pregnancies (approximately 18 weeks' and 34 weeks' gestation) are continuing without known complications. This report summarizes findings from the nine women with confirmed Zika virus infection during pregnancy and also includes case reports for four women with various clinical outcomes.

U.S. health care providers caring for pregnant women with possible Zika virus exposure during pregnancy should follow CDC guidelines for patient evaluation and management, found at <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/index.html>. Zika virus disease is a nationally notifiable condition. CDC has developed a voluntary registry to collect information about U.S. pregnant women with confirmed Zika virus infection and their infants. Information about the registry is in preparation and will be available on the CDC website.

NEW! On February 26, 2016, CDC released, *Transmission of Zika Virus Through Sexual Contact with Travelers to Areas of Ongoing Transmission — Continental United States, 2016*, which is available at:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6508e2er.htm?s_cid=mm6508e2er_e

Zika virus is a flavivirus closely related to dengue, West Nile, and yellow fever viruses. Although spread is primarily by *Aedes* species mosquitoes, two instances of sexual transmission of Zika virus have been reported and replicative virus has been isolated from semen of one man with hematospermia. On February 5, 2016, CDC published recommendations for preventing sexual transmission of Zika virus. Updated prevention guidelines were published on February 23. During February 6-22, 2016, CDC received reports of 14 instances of suspected sexual transmission of Zika virus. Among these, two laboratory-confirmed cases and four probable cases of Zika virus disease have been

identified among women whose only known risk factor was sexual contact with a symptomatic male partner with recent travel to an area with ongoing Zika virus transmission. Two instances have been excluded based on additional information, and six others are still under investigation. This report summarizes findings from the six confirmed and probable cases of Zika virus infection and also includes case reports for three of these six patients.

CDC guidelines for prevention of sexual transmission of Zika are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/index.html>.

For More Information

- Current information from CDC on Zika, including countries and territories with active Zika virus transmission, is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html>.
- CDC guidance for health care providers is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/index.html>.
- Links to previous Health Advisories/Updates on Zika sent by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) are available at: <http://health.mo.gov/emergencies/ert/alertsadvisories/index.php>.

Questions Regarding This Health Update

Missouri health care providers and public health practitioners: For questions regarding Zika testing of patients, please contact DHSS' Bureau of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM, at 573-751-6113; after hours/weekends, 800-392-0272 (24/7). For all other questions on Zika, contact DHSS' Office of Veterinary Public Health, Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM, 573-526-4780; after hours/weekends, 800-392-0272 (24/7).