

Health Update:

Update 3: Zika Virus Infections

February 5, 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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February 5, 2016

**FROM: PETER LYSKOWSKI
ACTING DIRECTOR**

SUBJECT: Update 3: Zika Virus Infections – New CDC Guidelines

NEW! On February 5, 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued new guidelines for preventing sexual transmission of Zika virus, and also issued an update to previously issued guidelines relating to pregnant women and women of reproductive age with possible Zika virus exposure.

1. Interim Guidelines for Prevention of Sexual Transmission of Zika Virus – United States, 2016. This is available at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/pdfs/mm6505e1er.pdf>

This new interim guidance on preventing sexual transmission of Zika virus has been issued following confirmation through laboratory testing of the first case of Zika virus infection in a non-traveler in the continental United States during the current Zika outbreak. It is noted that although sexual transmission of Zika virus infection is possible, mosquito bites remain the primary way that Zika virus is transmitted. CDC expects to update this interim guidance as new information becomes available.

2. Update: Interim Guidelines for Health Care Providers Caring for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age with Possible Zika Virus Exposure – United States, 2016. This is available at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/pdfs/mm6505e2er.pdf>

These updated guidelines for health care providers recommend that pregnant women without symptoms of Zika virus disease can be offered testing 2-12 weeks after returning from areas with ongoing Zika virus transmission.

Recommendations for pregnant women with a clinical illness consistent with Zika virus disease during, or within 2 weeks of, travel to such areas are unchanged from the previous CDC recommendations that were released on January 19, 2016.

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

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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