



Dear Submitters,

January 24, 2019

This communication provides an update on Zika testing services at the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Laboratory:

- Both Zika PCR and IgM serology testing are now being performed at our laboratory. Consequently, specimens will no longer be referred to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) except for confirmation.
- Specimen submission requires the use of a Zika-specific requisition form. All information on the form must be completed to determine eligibility for the method of testing. Missing information may result in specimen rejection or delays in testing.
 - The form can also be downloaded from our website.
- Submitters will now be billed for testing services. The initial fees for Zika PCR and IgM serology will be \$46 apiece. Appropriate testing (PCR and/or IgM serology) will be assigned by the laboratory based on eligibility criteria.

To qualify for Public Health Laboratory testing, patients must meet one of the following criteria:

- ✓ Symptoms + Exposure
- ✓ Pregnancy + Ongoing Exposure
- ✓ Abnormal finding (eg, positive Zika screening test by a commercial laboratory; newborn with mother diagnosed with Zika; abnormal ultrasound finding + exposure) + Exposure

To clarify these criteria:

- Asymptomatic pregnant females with only one-time or limited exposure are not eligible; the current recommendation is to carefully assess these patients for factors that increase the likelihood of Zika infection.
- Exposure is defined as recent travel to an area with risk of Zika virus or recent unprotected sexual contact with a partner who has traveled in the past 6 months to an area with risk of Zika virus (see www.bit.ly/CDCRiskAreas).
- Ongoing exposure involves travel on an at least weekly basis or ongoing unprotected sex with a partner who traveled.
- Further information on Zika virus infection, testing, and screening algorithms can be found at: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/>.

Please do not hesitate to contact the laboratory with any questions about testing or patient eligibility. We look forward to providing this important service to our community partners.

Sincerely,

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<http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/ph/bureaus/laboratory/default.asp>