



## Zika Virus Testing Guidance for Health Care Providers from the Alameda County Public Health Department

Follow CDPH guidelines to determine which patients should be tested for Zika virus infection

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/UpdatedZikaGuidanceforHCPsCaringforPregnantWomen.pdf>

Testing through Alameda County Public Health Lab	Testing through Commercial Lab
<p><b>Appropriate for</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A fetus or infant with microcephaly or signs of congenital Zika virus syndrome whose mother was potentially exposed to Zika virus</li> <li>• A person with Guillain-Barre syndrome and potential exposure to Zika virus</li> <li>• When local mosquito-borne, laboratory, or blood transfusion/organ transplant exposure is suspected as likely source of infection</li> <li>• If there are financial or other barriers identified to testing through a commercial lab (please indicate on Zika request form)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Appropriate for</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All patients who meet <a href="#">CDPH recommendations</a> for testing and who are not outlined in the 'Testing through Alameda County Public Health Lab' column to the left should have tests ordered through commercial labs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provider submits a request to ACPHD using the <a href="#">Zika Virus Testing Request Form</a> (requests for Berkeley residents must be submitted to the <a href="#">Berkeley Health Department</a>). ACPHD will determine the appropriate tests and specimens for the patient.</li> <li>• ACPHD will respond to provider's request within 1 week via secure email with a completed <a href="#">VRDL General Purpose Specimen Submittal Form</a>. Please <b>do not</b> send patient for specimen collection until approval email with completed VRDL forms are received.</li> <li>• Samples may be collected at provider's office, hospital, or clinic lab facility, or at an outside lab. Patient must present to the lab the completed <a href="#">VRDL General Purpose Specimen Submittal Form</a> and the <a href="#">Specific Requirements for Serum and Urine Submittal to the Public Health Laboratory</a>. Direct questions or concerns to ACPHD-PHL (510) 382-4300 or ACPHD (510) 267-3250.</li> <li>• <b>Collected samples should be stored cold: 2-8° C</b></li> <li>• Specimen is submitted with completed <a href="#">VRDL General Purpose Specimen Submittal Form</a> to the ACPHD-PHL to be forwarded to CDPH-VRDL.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on <a href="#">CDPH recommendations</a>, determine the appropriate test(s) and specimen(s) needed to order for the patient.</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: Based on <a href="#">CDPH recommendations</a>, a multi-step testing process may be indicated. (ex: test PCR 3 times during pregnancy for asymptomatic pregnant women with ongoing Zika exposure). <b>Providers are also responsible for following up with patients who have been referred to an outside lab to ensure specimens are collected in a timely manner.</b> (Contact ACPHD at 510-267-3250 for any questions or assistance in Zika virus testing).</i></p>
<p><b>Results</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCRs and negative IgMs should be expected to result 2-4 weeks from the date specimens were received by public health.</li> <li>• Samples with presumptive positive, equivocal, or inconclusive IgM test results must be forwarded for confirmation by PRNT which is still only available through CDPH-VRDL and CDC. This will add an additional 2-3 weeks onto testing time. No additional paperwork is required.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Results</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCRs and IgMs should be expected to take 2-7 days for results (Quest Labs reports a Turn-around Time (TAT) of 2-3 days for both PCR and IgM; LabCorp reports a TAT of 3 days for PCR and 5-7 days for IgM. Contact the commercial laboratory of your choice for details of TAT).</li> <li>• Samples with presumptive positive, equivocal, or inconclusive IgM results must be forwarded for confirmation by PRNT which is still only available through CDPH-VRDL and CDC. Some large commercial labs (including ARUP and Quest Diagnostics) have arranged to forward these specimens directly to CDC or CDPH for confirmatory testing. Please follow up with other commercial labs to ensure specimens are forwarded to CDC or CDPH for PRNT when indicated. This will add an additional 2-3 weeks onto testing time. No additional paperwork is required.</li> </ul>
<p>Total time to receive results**</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PCR or Negative IgM: <b>2-4 weeks</b> Requiring PRNT: <b>4-8 weeks</b></p>	<p>Total time to receive results**</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PCR or Negative IgM: <b>about 1 week</b> Requiring PRNT: <b>3-4 weeks</b></p>

\*\*Assumes patient takes approximately 2 days to get specimen drawn; this may take longer if patient delays