

# GUIDANCE FOR LABORATORY TESTING FOR ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE (Aug 2016)

## WHO DO I NOTIFY?

Suspected Zika virus disease cases should be reported within 24 hours to initiate prompt public health action. Contact the county health department or an Epidemiologist On-Call in the Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (DIDE) at (304) 558-5358, extension 1 or the answering service (304) 925-9946. Local health department staff should also consult with DIDE coordinate testing. **Do not send specimens for testing unless approved by DIDE.**

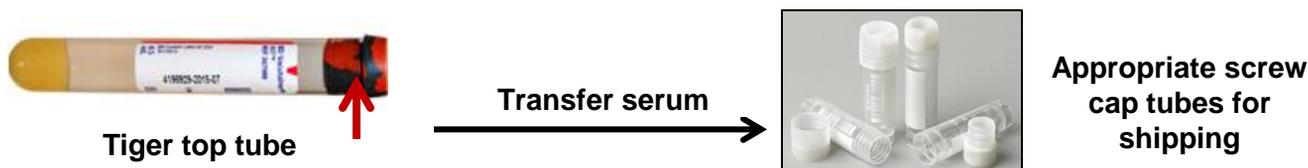
## WHAT SPECIMENS SHOULD I COLLECT? HOW SHOULD THEY BE COLLECTED?

CDC recommends that Zika virus rRT-PCR be performed on urine and serum collected <14 days after onset of symptoms in patients with suspected Zika virus disease. MAC ELISA testing is recommended for serum collected ≥14 days of illness onset.

**Serum:** 1.0 mL of whole blood should be collected in a “tiger-top” (speckled) tube with gel separator. Centrifuge at 2800 RPM for 10 minutes. A minimum of one milliliter (1mL) of serum should be transferred to a separate tube such as a screw cap cryogenic tube for shipping. Do not collect blood in tubes containing preservative or additives.

**Urine:** Provide 0.5–1.0 mL of the specimen in a sterile screw capped vial secured with a small piece of thermoplastic, self-sealing lab film.

Other specimens may be accepted for testing. Contact the West Virginia Office of Laboratory Services (OLS) with any questions you may have about collection (see contact information below). Additional testing guidance can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/laboratories/test-specimens-bodyfluids.html>.



## HOW SHOULD SPECIMENS BE STORED?

All specimens must be stored refrigerated (2-8°C; 35-46°F) until shipping. Do not freeze.

## HOW SHOULD SPECIMENS BE SHIPPED?

All specimens are to be shipped directly to OLS using an insulated shipping container. Category B (UN3373) guidelines must be followed. Cold packs must be included in the package.

## WHAT FORMS ARE NEEDED?

Submitters should complete the OLS Human Arbovirus Submission Form. Include a copy of the completed form in the package. The form can be found at this link:

[http://www.wvdhhr.org/labservices/shared/docs/Micro/Test\\_Request\\_Form\\_Arbo\\_Human.pdf](http://www.wvdhhr.org/labservices/shared/docs/Micro/Test_Request_Form_Arbo_Human.pdf)

## WHERE SHOULD SPECIMENS BE SHIPPED?

Office of Laboratory Services  
ATTN: Central Accessioning/Sendouts  
167 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
South Charleston, WV 25303

## WHEN WILL TEST RESULTS BE REPORTED?

Turn-around-time varies. For specimens tested at WVOLS, results may be available within a few days. For specimens sent to CDC or out of state public health laboratories, results may take several weeks. OLS will send copies of reports to the submitter, the patient’s county health department, and DIDE.

**Questions regarding specimen collection, shipping, and testing can be directed to the Microbiology Section of the Office of Laboratory Services at 304-558-3530 extension 2602.**