



## State of New Jersey

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH  
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*Governor*

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*Commissioner*

**To: Primary care providers, internists, obstetricians/gynecologists, pediatricians, infection preventionists, infectious disease doctors, neonatologists, hospitals, emergency department managers, community clinics, and other provider partners**

**Effective July 20, 2016, all requests for Zika Virus testing at the NJ Public Health and Environmental Laboratory (PHEL) should be directed to the local health department (LHD) where the patient resides during routine business hours. To find a directory of LHDs, visit [www.localhealth.nj.gov/](http://www.localhealth.nj.gov/).**

#### Submitting Requests

Requests can be submitted by telephone to the LHD during business hours, or providers can choose to complete the **Zika Virus Patient Information Worksheet** (attached) and fax it to the LHD. Incomplete information will delay testing approval. Please see the NJDOH Zika website for current testing criteria.

Specimen collection and storage information can be found in the **PHEL Technical Bulletin and Zika Testing Flowchart** (attached), which is posted on the NJDOH Zika website at <http://www.nj.gov/health/cd/zika/techinfo.shtml>.

#### Obtaining Results

Test results can take up to 8 weeks. PHEL will fax laboratory test results directly to the ordering provider on the fax provided. If you do not receive a patient's results in 8 weeks, please contact PHEL at [Zika.PHEL@doh.nj.gov](mailto:Zika.PHEL@doh.nj.gov) or 609-530-8516.

#### After Hours Requests

For acutely ill patients who have an exposure and present to a healthcare provider after hours, please collect and store serum and urine, and request approval the next business day. Check NJLINCS and the NJDOH Zika website regularly for the most up-to-date information.

#### Reportable Diseases

Arboviral diseases, including Zika, should be reported to the LHD where the patient resides. Infants born to mothers with lab results suggestive of Zika, or who have an anomaly and whose mother had a Zika virus exposure during pregnancy, should be reported to the LHD as a congenital Zika infection.

#### Contact

If providers are unable to reach the LHD, or want to report an urgent situation, providers can contact the NJDOH Communicable Disease Service at 609-826-5964 during business hours and at 609-392-2020 for emergencies after hours.

#### New Jersey's Health Alert Network

Please sign up for the New Jersey Health Alert Network at [www.njlincs.net](http://www.njlincs.net). Providers should sign up as "Other Partners" to receive important Health Updates and Alerts from the NJDOH.