

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8/11/2016

TO: Grant County Healthcare Providers

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT

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Lois Swenson, RN, Communicable Disease
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After Hours: 509-398-2083

Zika Virus Identified in Grant County Resident Who Traveled to Mexico

Healthcare providers urged to assess pregnant patients and other potentially exposed patients for Zika virus and contact GCHD to arrange testing.

GRANT COUNTY, WA – Grant County Health Officer, Dr. Alexander Brzezny, issues the following alert to our healthcare provider community: **The first Grant County Zika virus case was identified in early August. The patient, a male in his 30s, was likely exposed during his travel to Mexico.** Approximately 20 other Washington State residents have been diagnosed with Zika virus, all associated with travel outside the continental U.S. **The Zika virus mosquito species (*Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*) are not found in Washington; therefore, there is no risk for local transmission through mosquitoes.**

This is a reminder to the Grant County healthcare community to **1) Assess all pregnant patients for potential Zika virus exposure, 2) Consider Zika virus in any patient exhibiting compatible symptoms who traveled to areas with active Zika virus transmission (or sexual contact with a person who traveled), and to 3) Contact GCHD to arrange testing for patients meeting testing criteria. Call 509-766-7960 ext. 14 (Amber), ext. 13 (Lois) or after hours to 509-398-2083.**

- Following GCHD approval, CDC will test:
 - **All persons with possible travel or sexual exposure to Zika virus (regardless of pregnancy status) reporting two or more of the following symptoms: acute onset of fever, maculopapular rash, arthralgia, or conjunctivitis, during or within 2 weeks of exposure. Obtain specimens during the first week of illness if possible.**
 - **Symptomatic patients should also be tested commercially for Dengue and Chikungunya.**
 - **Pregnant women with possible travel or sexual exposure to Zika virus (at any trimester).**
 - **With clinical illness consistent with Zika virus disease -testing recommended during the first week of illness if possible.**
 - **Asymptomatic -testing can be offered up to 12 weeks after last exposure.**
 - **Fetal abnormalities present on ultrasound or fetal loss.**
 - **Babies born to women with a history of exposure during pregnancy, with evidence of maternal infection or fetal infection.**
- **Before calling GCHD obtain travel or sexual exposure history, including dates of travel.**



Additional health care provider resources:

- For an up-to-date list of areas with active Zika virus transmission, go to www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/index.html
- For CDC Zika virus health care provider resources, go to www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/index.html
- For WA DOH Zika virus for clinical laboratories, go to www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/5100/ZikaGuidanceClinicalLabs.pdf

Clinical Consultation

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Environmental Consultation

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Attachments

Zika Healthcare Provider Testing Infographic
Zika Guidance for Healthcare Providers

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