



Yakima Health District
1210 Ahtanum Ridge Drive
Union Gap, WA 98903
Phone (509) 575-4040
Fax (509) 575-7894

Health Care Provider Update

Zika Virus Testing: New Emphasis on Using Commercial Laboratories

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Actions requested:

- **Submit routine testing for Zika virus to commercial laboratories, not to the PHL.**
- Limit requests for public health laboratory testing to
 - infants with suspected intra-uterine exposure, OR
 - patients for whom inability to pay out-of-pocket costs would prevent appropriate testing from being conducted.
- **See page 2 for a summary of test ordering and related coding.**

Background:

- The current workload for Zika testing through the Washington State Public Health Laboratory (PHL) exceeds its funding. Meeting the current level of service demand is not sustainable.
- **Limit requests for PHL testing to infants and no-pay patients with appropriate indications for testing. Submission of these specimens must be cleared and facilitated by YHD. Call (509) 249-6541.**
- **All other testing should occur through commercial laboratories.** Testing is available through PAML (c/o referral of specimens to ARUP), LabCorp, Quest, Mayo Clinic, and others. **No YHD involvement is needed in commercial testing unless a test result is positive or the patient is a suspected clinical case (i.e., symptomatic for Zika).**
- Most testing is for asymptomatic pregnant woman who have been exposed either by travel to an endemic area or by recent sexual exposure to a known case or returning traveler. The other main indications for testing are evaluation of Zika-like illness and evaluation of infants exposed during gestation.
- Recall that Washington State does not have a competent vector species of mosquito known to carry Zika virus. Therefore residents of Yakima County are only at risk of being infected if they travel to [areas with ongoing mosquito transmission](#) or if they have unprotected sex with an infected person (infected people do not necessarily show symptoms of disease but can still transmit Zika virus).
- For full coverage of Zika screening in pregnancy, visit: https://www.cdc.gov/zika/pdfs/testing_algorithm.pdf.
- For general information on Zika, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/preparing-for-zika/clinicalevaluationdisease.html>
- **Call YHD at (509) 249-6541 to report suspected clinical cases, report positive Zika laboratory results, request testing by the PHL, or to obtain consultation on appropriate testing in a particular situation.**

Summary of correct testing to order based on indication and timing of specimen collection:

Reason for Testing	Time ¹ (days)		
	0-14	15-90	>90
Zika-like illness ²	Urine RT-PCR ⁵ Serum RT-PCR ⁵ Serum IgM	Serum IgM ⁶	Consult YHD
Pregnant woman exposed through travel or sex ³	Urine RT-PCR ⁵ Serum RT-PCR ⁵ Serum IgM	Serum IgM ⁶	Consult YHD
Infant with suspected intrauterine exposure ⁴	Consult YHD	Consult YHD	Consult YHD

¹Time since onset of illness, last exposure, or since birth, depending on the indication for testing
²A constellation of fever, rash, arthralgia, and/or conjunctivitis in a patient exposed within the 14 days prior to onset.
³Sex = sex with a partner who is infected or exposed within the past 6 months
⁴Exposed to a mother with positive Zika testing results or clinical-epidemiologic suspicion of infection but testing not done during pregnancy.
⁵A positive RT-PCR result on any sample confirms Zika virus infection and no additional testing is indicated. A negative RT-PCR result does not exclude Zika virus infection and serum should be analyzed by IgM antibody (serological) testing.
⁶Positive IgM results are confirmed by plaque reduction neutralization testing at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Billing codes for commercial testing

Test	CPT	LABORATORY REQUISITION CODE			
		PAML*	ARUP	LabCorp	Quest
Zika urine PCR	87798	“Zika urine PCR”	2014069	139600	94221
Zika serum PCR	87798	“Zika serum PCR”	2014065	139600	94221
Zika serum IgM	86790	“Zika serum IgM”	2013942	163049	94264

*PAML requests entering these terms on the requisition form. Consider also entering ARUP’s Zika testing codes (recall that ARUP is the Zika reference laboratory for PAML).

Diagnosis	ICD-10
Suspected Zika-like illness	A92.9
Confirmed Zika infection	U06.9
Exposed mother	Z20.8
Exposed infant	P00.2