THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Health and Social Services
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Section of Epidemiology
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Specimen Information for Zika Virus Testing through Public Health

All test requests in Alaska must go through the Section of Epidemiology* — 907-269-8000.

Testing for Zika virus infection may be performed at either the Alaska State Public Health Laboratory (ASPHL) or at CDC-Fort Collins depending on the clinical presentation and timing of specimen collection. It is essential that the correct specimens are collected depending on the Time from Symptoms; please see below.

PCR testing at ASPHL

Time from Symptoms	Type of Specimens	Minimum Amounts	Time to Results
3 < 7 days	Serum CSF AND serum	0.5 mL 1.0 mL CSF; 0.5 mL serum	Up to 5 business days
3 < 14 days	Urine AND serum	0.5 mL urine; 0.5 mL serum	

Serologic Testing at CDC-Fort Collins, CO

Time from Symptoms	Type of Specimens	Minimum Amounts	Time to Results
14+ days OR No symptoms	Serum Urine AND serum CSF AND serum	0.5 mL 0.5 mL urine; 0.5 mL serum 1.0 mL CSF; 0.5 mL serum	6-8 weeks

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Whole blood will not be accepted for serology testing. If sender cannot separate whole blood, ask them to spin it down prior to sending to the Lab, where they can separate and send the serum.
- Please transfer serum or CSF to a plastic tube with screw cap measuring no more than 5 cm tall and approximately 13 mm in diameter (e.g. 1.8 mL cryotube or 2.0 mL microtube).
- Depending on timing of symptoms and testing results, follow-up blood samples may be requested.
- All specimens should be kept cold or frozen. Samples may be placed in an insulated container with blue ice packs.

SPECIMEN SHIPPING

Please ship Monday-Friday during normal business operations. SOE will forward appropriate specimens to CDC-Fort Collins, CO, for testing. Ship specimen and lab requisitions to:

Alaska State Public Health Laboratory
5455 Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99507
Ph: 907-334-2100

Alaska State Virology Laboratory
931 Sheenjek Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99775
Ph: 907-371-1000

RESULT REPORTING

SOE will notify the ordering provider of the result by phone; a hard copy of the results will take at least 2 weeks after testing is completed.

**Some commercial labs are starting to offer testing; providers accessing those tests are not required to contact SOE but should be aware of caveats associated with results see: http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00392.asp*

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