



## Specimen Information for Zika Virus Testing through Public Health

**\*Suspected and confirmed Zika infections are reportable to the State — 907-269-8000\***

Public health offers and can facilitate testing for Zika Virus. Appropriate collection and labelling of specimens is crucial. Additionally, there are now commercial laboratories which offer testing; providers can coordinate directly with these companies. *Regardless of where testing occurs, all suspected cases of Zika Virus in Alaska must be reported to the Section of Epidemiology (SOE) within five (5) days at (907) 269-8000.*

### Alaska State Public Health Laboratory – In-State PCR Testing

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	2-5 business days  <i>Note:</i> • Positive specimens are final • Negative specimens are sent to referral lab for serologic testing**
3 < 14 days	Urine AND serum	0.5 mL urine; 0.5 mL serum	

### Referral Public Health Laboratory – Send-out Serologic Testing

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/frozen. Samples may be placed in an insulated container with ice packs.

### SPECIMEN SHIPPING

Please ship Monday-Friday during normal business operations. The Alaska State Public Health Laboratory will forward appropriate specimens to referral public health labs 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 results will then be sent afterwards.

\*Some commercial labs are starting to offer testing; SOE will not pay for or ship these specimens. Providers should be aware of caveats associated with these results: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00392.asp>