



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

This is an official
MS Health Alert Network (HAN) **Advisory**

MESSAGE ID: MSHAN-20160804-00125-ADV (Health Advisory)

RECIPIENTS: To all Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, Labs, Nurse Practitioners, and Healthcare providers – Statewide

DATE: Thursday, August 04, 2016

SUBJECT: *Clarification of recently updated Mississippi State Department of Health Zika Virus Testing Recommendations*

- The attached algorithm may be used to determine your patient's need for Zika testing.
- **MSDH provides Zika testing through the Mississippi Public Health Laboratory (MPHL). All requests for Zika testing at the MPHL must come directly from the patient's clinician to the MSDH Office of Epidemiology for approval (601- 576-7725 or 601-576-7400 after hours).**
- Testing is recommended for (see attached algorithm):
 - Symptomatic persons (at least one of the following symptoms within 2 weeks of exposure – rash, fever, arthralgia, or conjunctivitis) with a history of personal travel to an area with active Zika transmission* OR sexual contact with a traveler to an area with active Zika transmission*.
 - Asymptomatic pregnant women who, while pregnant, have traveled to an area with active Zika transmission* or have had sexual contact with a traveler to an area with active Zika transmission*
- All pregnant women should be assessed (not tested) for Zika virus exposure at each prenatal visit. This should include questions regarding recent travel to Zika affected areas* for the patient and their sexual partners. **IF** there is potential exposure, the healthcare provider should contact the MSDH Office of Epidemiology for testing recommendations

* Please see the following for up to date information on areas with active Zika transmission:

<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/intheus/florida-update.html>

<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/active-countries.html>

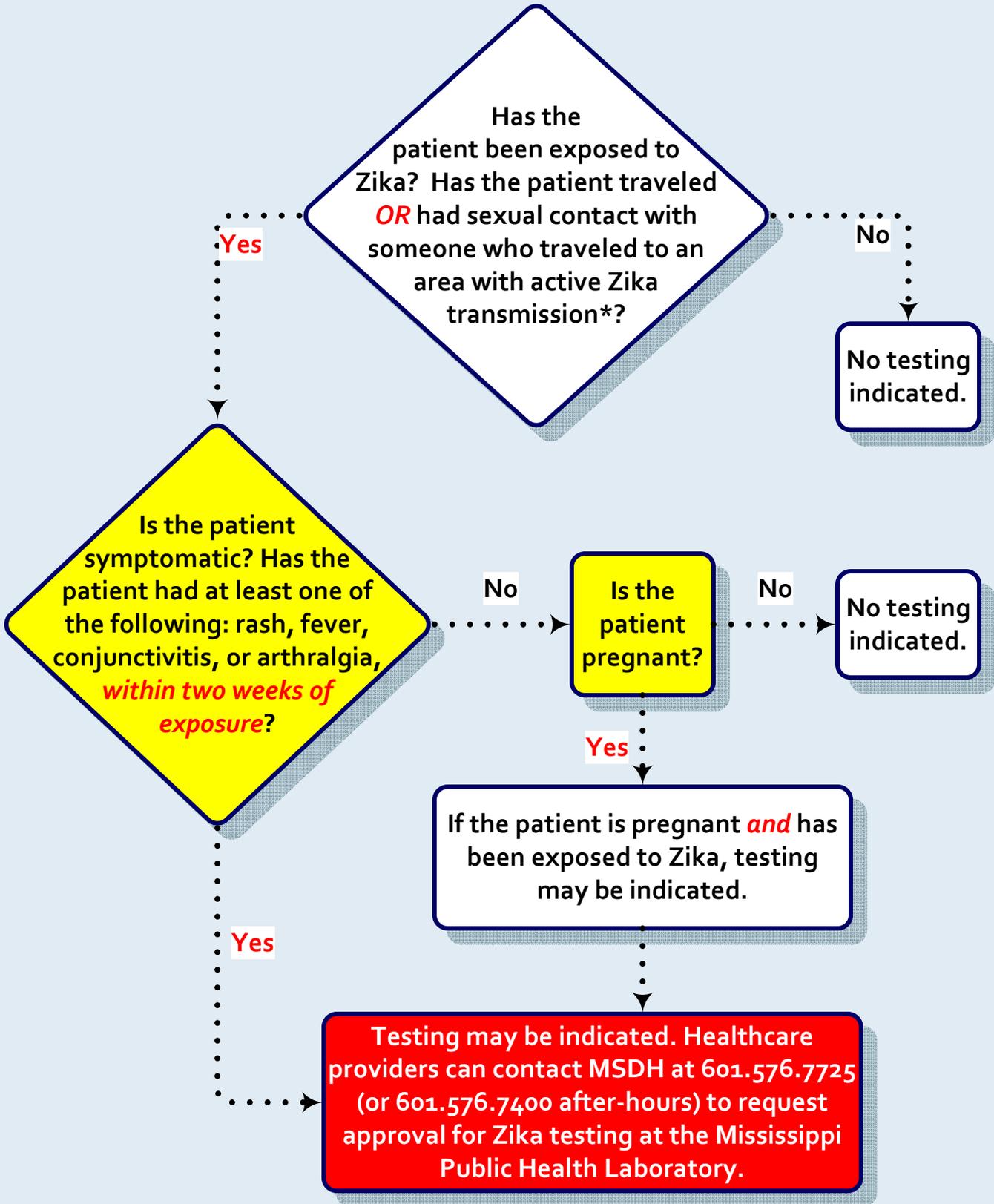
Regards,

Paul Byers, MD
Deputy State Epidemiologist

Zika Testing Algorithm for Healthcare Providers

(Healthcare providers: Use the flowchart below to determine if

Zika testing may be indicated for your patient.)



*See <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/intheus/florida-update.html> and <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/active-countries.html> for areas with active transmission.



Alerting Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: Mississippi State Department of Health
Alerting Program: MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)
Message Identifier: MSHAN-20160804-00125-ADV
Program (HAN) Type: Health Advisory
Status (Type): Actual ()
Message Type: Alert
Reference: MSHAN-00125
Severity: Unknown
Acknowledgement: No
Sensitive: Not Sensitive
Message Expiration: Undetermined
Urgency: Undetermined
Delivery Time: 600 minutes

Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.

Alerting Program: The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.

Message Identifier: A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (**ALT=Health Alert, ADV=Health Advisory, UPD=Health Update, MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**)).

Program (HAN) Type: Categories of Health Alert Messages.

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

Health Info Service: Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

Status (Type):

- Actual: Communication or alert refers to a live event
- Exercise: Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
- Test: Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded

Message Type:

- Alert: Indicates an original Alert



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Update: Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
Cancel: Indicates prior alert has been cancelled
Error: Indicates prior alert has been retracted

Reference: For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

Severity:

Extreme: Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe: Significant threat to life or property
Moderate: Possible threat to life or property
Minor: Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown: Unknown threat to life or property

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

Sensitive:

Sensitive: Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive: Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Expiration: Undetermined.

Urgency: Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).