



2 Peachtree Street NW, 15th Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142  
dph.ga.gov

### **Zika Guidance for Laboratorians**

All tests conducted at the state laboratory must be approved by the district epidemiologist, the State Zika Epidemiology Team at 404-657-2588 (M-F, 8am-5pm), or 1-866-PUB-HLTH (after hours). Prior to approving a patient for Zika virus testing, Public Health needs ALL the following information listed below. Specimens shipped without prior approval and/or without the appropriate DPH paperwork will not be tested.

1. Patient Name
2. Patient date of birth
3. Sex (if female, pregnancy status and expected due date)
4. Patient address
5. Travel location(s) (specific countries)
6. Travel dates (specific dates)
7. Date of symptom onset
8. Symptoms/Observed birth defect(s)
9. Last date of unprotected sex (if exposure is sexual)

Clinical questions may be triaged by epidemiology at any time, however, laboratory requisitions can only be processed during normal business hours. Two separate serum samples (at least 1 mL each, in red or tiger top tubes) and one free catch urine sample (at least 1 mL, in a sterile cup) can be collected by your facility after hours for a suspect case and held refrigerated until the next business day for processing.

DPH Epidemiology will fax the appropriate requisition forms after the patient is approved for testing. If you have any questions, please contact the State Zika Epidemiology Team at 404-657-2588.