

Zika Testing Recommendations by Clinical Status, Specimen Collection Timing, and Laboratory

Clinical Status	Specimen Collection Timing (from Symptom Onset or Last Exposure, if Asymptomatic)	Preferred Specimen Type(s) ¹ and Test(s)	Laboratories	Additional Testing
Exposed ³ , symptomatic ⁴ , non-pregnant patients	Day 1–3	Serum rRT-PCR and Urine rRT-PCR	PABOL, LabCorp, ViraCor, Quest ²	If neg, submit serum from ≥Day 14 for IgM testing
	Day 4–7	Serum rRT-PCR, Serum IgM, and Urine rRT-PCR	PABOL, LabCorp	If neg, submit serum from ≥Day 14 for IgM testing; If IgM pos, laboratory to forward for PRNT testing
	Day 8–13	Serum IgM and Urine rRT-PCR	PABOL, LabCorp	If neg, submit serum from ≥Day 14 for IgM testing; If IgM pos, laboratory to forward for PRNT testing
	Day 14–12 weeks	Serum IgM	PABOL, LabCorp	If IgM pos, laboratory to forward for PRNT testing
Exposed ³ , pregnant patients (asymptomatic and symptomatic ⁴)	Day 1–14	Serum rRT-PCR and Urine PCR	PABOL, LabCorp, ViraCor, Quest ²	If neg, submit serum from ≥Day 14 for IgM testing; If IgM pos, laboratory to forward for PRNT testing
	Day 14–12 weeks	Serum IgM	PABOL, LabCorp	If IgM pos, reflex to rRT-PCR; subsequent negative rRT-PCR should be forwarded for PRNT testing

Abbreviations PABOL, Pennsylvania Department of Health Bureau of Laboratories; PRNT, Plaque-reduction neutralization tests

¹Serum should be collected in a red or tiger-top (serum separator) tube, centrifuged to prevent hemolysis, and stored refrigerated or frozen.

²Quest does not currently perform PCR-testing on urine specimens.

³Zika exposure is defined as travel to an affected area, unprotected sexual contact with a traveler to an affected area, or other potential epidemiologic links (transfusion/transplant recipients, maternal-fetal transmission, household contacts/neighbors of infected persons as discussed with PDPH, etc.).

⁴Symptomatic is defined as having one or more of the following: acute fever (reported or measured), rash, arthralgia, or conjunctivitis, with onset within 2 weeks of potential Zika virus exposure; OR Guillain-Barré syndrome or other neurologic manifestations within 45 days of potential Zika virus exposure.