



Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services



HEALTH ALERT NETWORK Update



TO: Primary care providers, pediatricians, OB/GYN, and public health

FROM: Thomas J. Safranek, M.D. Thomas L. Williams, M.D.
State Epidemiologist Director, Chief Medical Officer
402-471-2937 PHONE DHHS, Division of Public Health
402-471-3601 FAX

RE: Zika Updates

DATE: October 24, 2017

Both Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands experienced large outbreaks of Zika in 2016, and there are several thousand infants and children with possible congenital Zika virus infection in these two territories. Due to recent weather events devastating Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, there has been significant disruption to the care of pregnant women, infants, and children. Some of these families impacted by Zika might choose to relocate temporarily or permanently to other parts of the United States.

Please be vigilant in identifying possible visitors to Nebraska. If seen in your clinic, please contact your local health department or Lisa Ludwig at Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (402-471-1376). It is essential that pregnant women with possible Zika virus exposure, and infants and children with possible congenital Zika virus infection, are rapidly connected to critical services.

In addition, CDC released an MMWR with new guidance for the diagnosis, care, and evaluation of infants with possible congenital Zika virus infection. The complete MMWR can be found at the following link: [Update: Interim Guidance for the Diagnosis, Evaluation and Management of Infants with Possible Congenital Zika Virus Infection — United States, October 2017.](#)

Additional questions and concerns may be directed toward Lisa Ludwig at Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (402-471-1376; lisa.ludwig@nebraska.gov).