

# Epi Monthly Report

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## Zika Virus Testing Guidance: Miami-Dade County, 2017

Xeniamaria Rodriguez, MSPH

### Zika- Where are we now?

Zika is a flavivirus which is closely related to dengue and chikungunya. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) discovered an association between Zika and microcephaly, as well as a cluster of birth defects referred to as Zika congenital syndrome. During the 2016 outbreak in Florida, the Florida Department of Health (DOH) began offering free Zika testing for pregnant women (1).

Although currently there is no evidence of local transmission of Zika virus, preventive measures against mosquito bites are still recommended throughout Miami-Dade County, particularly for pregnant women (2). In 2017 thus far, there have been 162 total Zika infections. Among these, 10 were presumed to be locally acquired in 2016 and identified in 2017, and 30 were asymptomatic cases from 2016 identified in 2017. Of those 162 infections, 122 were travel-related Zika cases throughout the state of Florida

and 54 were located in Miami Dade County (3). On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, the CDC officially lifted the cautionary ban over Miami-Dade County, as there had been no indication of active Zika transmission in the previous 45 days (three mosquito incubation periods) (4).

### Think Zika: Current Testing Guidance and Testing

The Florida Department of Health recommends testing for individuals who have two of the following symptoms: **fever, rash, joint pain, red eyes**, and recent travel history to Zika-affected areas. In cases where no travel has occurred, testing is recommended if the suspected local case presents with three of the following symptoms: **fever, rash, joint pain, red eyes**. Individuals who believe they may have Zika should be evaluated by their health care provider. The recommendation from the DOH is to screen individuals using CDC Zika risk guidelines, collect information about travel history, direct questions to County Health Department (CHD),

educate the individual on Zika virus, and advise prevention measures. (5)

The CDC has recently updated the national guidelines regarding testing pregnant women for potential Zika virus infection (6). ***The Florida Department of Health, however, has not changed its previous guidelines and will continue to offer free Zika Virus testing to all pregnant women in Florida.*** (5) This is still consistent with CDC the recommendation that individual jurisdictions adjust their guidelines according to local epidemiological Zika patterns and exposure risk. Zika virus continues to circulate in many parts of Central and South America and the Caribbean, locations to which many Miami-Dade residents and visitors frequently travel.

### Prevention Measures

Although Zika transmission can occur through sexual contact and blood transfusions, the most common transmission method remains mosquito bites (7). The *Aedes aegypti* mosquito species is primarily responsible for Zika transmission through mosquito bites. This mosquito species bites mostly during the day but can also bite at night and thus, the most effective way to prevent mosquito bites is to use a repellent registered under the Environmental Protection Agency, or EPA. An EPA- registered insect repellent is one with an active

ingredient of one or more of the following: DEET, Picaridin (KBR3023), IR3535, and oil of lemon eucalyptus (para-menthane-diol), or 2-undecanone). Ensure that all people using repellent are over the age of 2 months, and wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants. Remind patients that standing water is a prime breeding ground for mosquitoes, and that dumping standing water and scrubbing vases are both good ways to prevent mosquito breeding (8(5)). As mosquitoes can transmit a variety of diseases, including yellow fever, dengue, chikungunya, and West Nile virus, the promotion of mosquito bite prevention within our Miami-Dade community remains vital year-round.

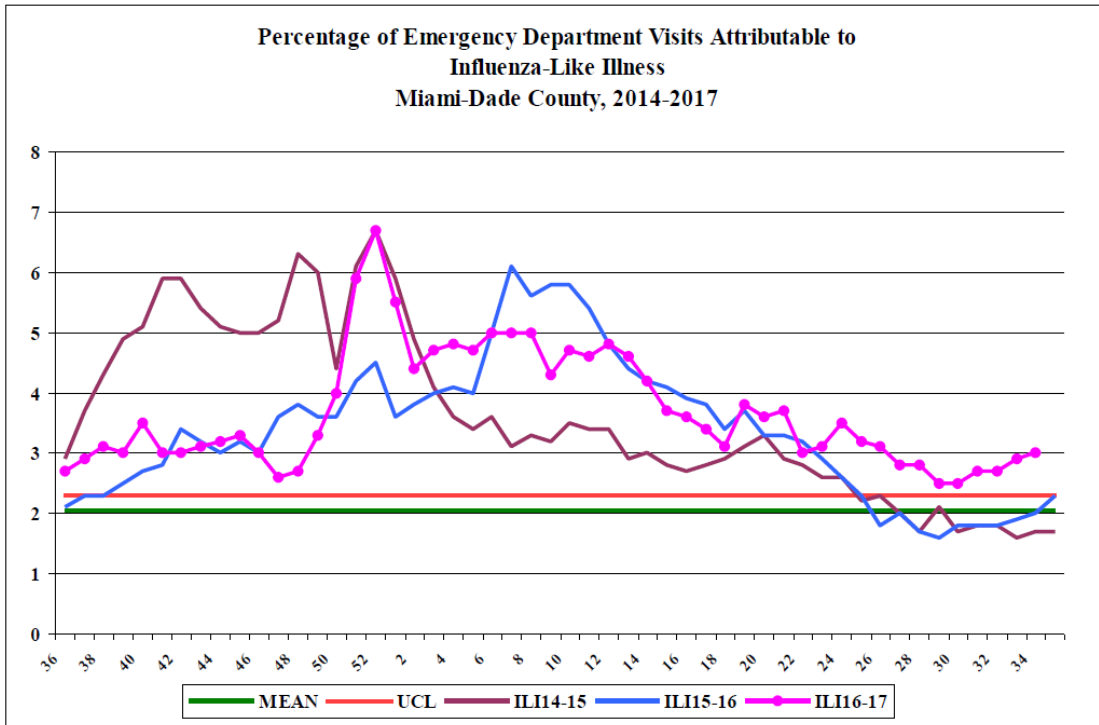
### Reporting

Practitioners, hospitals, medical facilities, laboratories, schools, nursing homes, state institutions or other locations providing health services are required to notify DOH of diseases or conditions and the associated laboratory test results listed in the Table of Reportable Diseases or Conditions to Be Reported, Rule 64D-3.029, Florida Administrative Code. ***At this time, Zika fever has been added to the reportable communicable diseases list for the state of Florida.*** Zika virus should be reported to the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (DOH-Miami-Dade) by calling (305)-470-5660. Notification should occur upon initial suspicion

### References

1. "Zika Virus". 2017. CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html>
2. "Zika Virus". 2017. CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/zika/intheus/florida-update.html>.
3. "Zika Virus | Florida Department of Health". 2017. *Floridahealth.Gov*. <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/zika-virus/>.
4. "Zika Virus". 2017. CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/zika/intheus/florida-maps.html>.
5. " Department of Health's Zika Testing, Investigation and Notification Process". 2017. Floridahealth.Gov. <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/zika-virus/documents/zika-testing-process-final.pdf?clearcache=1503414347814>.
6. Oduyebo T, Polen KD, Walke HT, et al. Update: Interim Guidance for Health Care Providers Caring for Pregnant Women with Possible Zika Virus Exposure — United States (Including U.S. Territories), July 2017. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2017;66:781-793. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6629e1>.
7. "Zika Virus – Protect Yourself And Others". 2017. CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/protect-yourself-and-others.html>.
8. "Zika Virus - Protect Yourself From Mosquito Bites". 2017. CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/prevent-mosquito-bites.html>.

**Influenza-Like-Illness, All Age**



During this period, there were 28,960 ED visits; among them 881 (3.0%) were ILI. At the same week of last year, 2.0% of ED visits were ILI.

**PARTICIPATE IN INFLUENZA SENTINEL PROVIDER SURVEILLANCE**

**Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County NEEDS Influenza Sentinel Providers!**

Sentinel providers are key to the success of the Florida Department of Health’s Influenza Surveillance System. Data reported by sentinel providers gives a picture of the influenza virus and ILI activity in the U.S. and Florida which can be used to guide prevention and control activities, vaccine strain selection, and patient care.

- Providers of any specialty, in any type of practice, are eligible to be sentinel providers.
- Most providers report that it takes **less than 30 minutes a week** to compile and report data on the total number of patients seen and the number of patients seen with influenza-like illness.
- Sentinel providers can submit specimens from a subset of patients to the state laboratory for virus isolation **free of charge**.

For more information, please contact  
**Lakisha Thomas** at 305-470-5660.

**TO REPORT ANY DISEASE AND FOR INFORMATION CALL:  
Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services**

Childhood Lead Poisoning	
Prevention Program .....	305-470-6877
Hepatitis .....	305-470-5536
Immunizations or outbreaks .....	305-470-5660
HIV/AIDS Program .....	305-470-6999
STD Program .....	305-575-5430
Tuberculosis Program .....	305- 575-5415
Immunization Service .....	305-470-5660
To make an appointment.....	786-845-0550

**About the Epi Monthly Report**

The Epi Monthly Report is a publication of the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County: Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services. The publication serves a primary audience of physicians, nurses, and public health professionals. Articles published in the Epi Monthly Report may focus on quantitative research and analysis, program updates, field investigations, or provider education. For more information or to submit an article, please contact Emily Moore at (305) 470-6918.



# Miami-Dade County Monthly Report

## Select Reportable Disease/Conditions

### July 2017

Diseases/Conditions	2017 Current Month	2017 Year to Date	2016 Year to Date	2015 Year to Date
<b>HIV/AIDS</b>				
AIDS*	23	258	328	293
HIV	94	789	966	802
<b>STD</b>				
Infectious Syphilis*	18	225	248	175
Chlamydia*	965	7398	7123	5689
Gonorrhea*	291	1933	1607	1077
<b>TB</b>				
Tuberculosis**	13	52	60	63
<b>Epidemiology, Disease Control &amp; Immunization Services</b>				
<b>Epidemiology</b>				
Campylobacteriosis	62	377	345	396
Chikungunya Fever	0	0	0	12
Ciguatera Poisoning	0	7	0	9
Cryptosporidiosis	4	18	12	11
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	1	2
Dengue Fever	1	2	7	7
Escherichia coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing	0	20	5	12
Encephalitis, West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0
Giardiasis, Acute	0	0	0	0
Influenza Novel Strain	0	0	0	0
Influenza, Pediatric Death	0	1	0	0
Legionellosis	3	18	5	13
Leptospirosis	0	0	0	1
Listeriosis	1	5	4	2
Lyme disease	1	3	2	0
Malaria	1	5	4	4
Meningitis (except aseptic)	0	2	2	3
Meningococcal Disease	1	6	0	5
Salmonella serotype Typhi (Typhoid Fever)	1	1	1	2
Salmonellosis	66	371	347	325
Shigellosis	21	63	45	74
Streptococcus pneumoniae, Drug Resistant	3	18	2	0
Vibriosis	0	4	4	12
West Nile Fever	0	0	0	0
<b>Immunization Preventable Diseases</b>				
Measles	0	0	4	0
Mumps	1	1	2	3
Pertussis	3	19	13	17
Rubella	0	0	0	0
Tetanus	0	0	0	0
Varicella	4	25	47	26
<b>Hepatitis</b>				
Hepatitis A	11	69	20	24
Hepatitis B (Acute)	2	17	9	9
<b>Healthy Homes</b>				
Lead Poisoning	12	50	61	41

\*Data is provisional at the county level and is subject to edit checks by state and federal agencies.

\*\* Data on tuberculosis are provisional at the county level.