

Pike County Health Department

Katherine Rowles, RN, SN, President, Board of Health
Anita Andress, RN, BSN, Administrator



606 W. Adams Street
Pittsfield, IL 62363-1308
Tel: (217) 285-4407
Fax: (217) 285-4639

HomeCare



Across Illinois

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Start Date: 4-25-16

Stop Date: 4-29-16

Contact: Nancy Halpin, RN, 217-285-4407 x124

Zika Virus

As of April 6, 2016 the U.S. has reported a total of 346 travel-associated Zika cases. Zika is a nationally notifiable disease, reportable to the CDC. Zika has not been spread by mosquitoes in the continental United States. However, lab tests have confirmed Zika virus in travelers returning to the United States. These travelers have gotten the virus from mosquito bites and some non-travelers got Zika through sex with a traveler. Zika is most dangerous to the unborn baby. Zika virus is linked to brain defects in infants and a severe abnormality called microcephaly. Zika is usually a mild illness with fever, rash, joint pain, and red eyes. There is growing fear that Zika virus could be spread by mosquitoes in the U.S., especially in the gulf coast states.

There are 10 cases of Zika virus in Illinois as of 4-7-16. These ten cases are among eight women (two who were pregnant) and two men. These individuals traveled separately to Barbados, Columbia, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, and Puerto Rico. One person traveled to multiple Caribbean Islands.

Travelers to those countries affected by Zika virus should take precautions to avoid mosquito bites. Travelers (both male and female) should consider pregnancy issues before, during, and after travel to any of the affected countries.

Did you know that your local Pike County Health Department staff is monitoring the Zika virus situation? Health department nurses receive Zika virus updates from CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) almost daily. Pike County Health Department staff nurses have been participating in webinars and conferences regarding the spread of this virus, and have provided information about the virus and testing protocol to all local health care providers. Pike County

Equal Opportunity Employer

Health Department's Medical Director, Dr. Ronald Johnson has been involved and provides guidance regarding these types of communicable disease matters.

Pike County Health Department is required by the CDC to approve and facilitate the testing of individuals when the physician requests Zika virus testing.

Pike County Health Department maintains disease surveillance for all nationally notifiable diseases. The role of the health department includes case management of the patient and contacts, assessment of symptoms, travel, pregnancy information, coordination of lab testing, and measures to prevent the spread of the virus.

Please visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov for the most current information about the Zika virus.

For more information, please contact Nancy Halpin RN at Pike County Health Department 285-4407 Ext 124.

###