

The Alabama Department of Public Health and Commercial Zika Testing

The Alabama Department of Public Health is asking providers to continue to contact ADPH for consultation prior to ordering Zika testing on patients (1-800-338-8374). A commercial Zika test (rRT-PCR) recently became available; however, rRT-PCR testing is indicated within a very narrow time frame and negative results do not rule out Zika infection. Many factors should be considered and Public Health can provide guidance on recommended timing and choice of tests. For negative rRT-PCR results, this may include one or more Zika test modalities that are not currently commercially available, e.g., MAC-ELISA (IgM) and PRNT tests.

As a reminder, since December 31, 2014, all test results for arboviral diseases, including Zika virus, are reportable to the ADPH Infectious Diseases & Outbreaks Division (ID&O). Physicians, nurses, and laboratory directors are required to report all results (positive, negative, inconclusive, and equivocal) to ID&O within 5 days.

Thank you,
Alabama Health Alert Network