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MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Health Departments

FROM: Division of Laboratories & Communicable Disease Control Section

DATE: October 18, 2016

RE: New IDPH Arboviral Lab Submission Form and Updates to the Miami Exposure area & Guidance for Preconception Counseling and Prevention of Zika virus

In this guidance:

1. New, single form available for Zika virus specimen submission (replacing prior forms)
2. Expanded Zika virus transmission area in Miami
3. Updated recommendations for preconception counseling for men

1. New, single form for Zika virus testing: In an effort to simplify the process of submitting specimens for arboviral testing at the Division of Laboratories, IDPH has created a new form for providers to use in lieu of the CDC 50.34 form (DASH), the IDPH Test Request for Human Arbovirus Panel form, and the IDPH Request for Zika Virus Testing Form. The new form is user-friendly and covers testing for all arboviral diseases. Health care providers will be able to obtain the form from the [IDPH Public Zika webpage](#). Additionally, the form will be accessible to local health departments from IDPH Portal, CD Topics A to Z on the [Arbovirus Diseases page](#) and the [Zika Virus page](#). When additional or confirmatory testing at the CDC is indicated, the IDPH Laboratory staff will complete the CDC 50.34 form (DASH) and ship it with the specimen to the CDC.

2. Expanded area of local viral transmission: The Florida Department of Public Health has expanded the area of active Zika transmission in Miami Beach to a larger (4.5 square mile area) section than was previously identified. LHDs are encouraged to utilize the two flowcharts IDPH designed last month to stay current on exposure areas. Found on either the [IDPH Portal Zika Page](#) and on [IDPH Public Zika webpage](#), both link to CDC's pages showing active Zika virus transmission areas.

3. Preconception counseling for men: On October 7, 2016, CDC released updated guidance for preconception counseling and prevention of sexual transmission of Zika for persons with possible Zika virus exposure. For males with possible Zika exposure, the guidance extends the timeframe during which pregnancy should be avoided through either abstinence or use of barrier contraception from eight weeks to six months (from symptom onset or last possible exposure date, if asymptomatic). The full version of the MMWR can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

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