



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Department of Public Health
Dr. Katherine A. Kelley State Public Health Laboratory
395 West Street; Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Date: 5/12/2016

To: Medical Laboratory Directors; Health Care Providers

From: Jafar H. Razeq, PhD, HCLD (ABB), Laboratory Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JR', is written over the name of the sender.

RE: Updated guidance for Zika testing of Urine specimens using the Trioplex rRT-PCR at the State Public Health Laboratory

Based on CDC's (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6518e1.htm>) most recent guidance on Zika testing, Zika virus rRT-PCR can be performed on urine collected <14 days after onset of symptoms in patients with suspected Zika virus disease. Zika virus rRT-PCR testing of urine should be performed in conjunction with serum testing if using specimens collected <7 days after symptom onset. A positive result in either specimen type provides evidence of Zika virus infection. Collect at least 1.0 mL of urine in a sterile container with a tight fitting screw cap (possibly film secured).

Urine specimens should be kept cold (2-6° C) or frozen (-70° C) and shipped cold or frozen. For cold specimens, the sample may be placed in an insulated container with adequate ice packs to ensure specimen ("cold chain") integrity. For frozen specimens, ship the sample on enough dry ice to ensure specimens remain frozen until received.

For laboratory related questions please contact the State Public Health Laboratory at 860-920-6635 or 860-920-6506. For questions regarding the approval process, please call 860-509-7994.

Thank you.