



# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

PREPAREDNESS

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To AHCCCS Providers:

To date, Arizona has had over 30 travel-associated cases of Zika, and 0 locally-acquired cases.

Arizona is considered to be a high-risk state for Zika, given the endemicity of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, the number of travelers returning from Zika-affected countries, and the occurrence of similar mosquito-borne disease outbreaks in the past.

Arizona clinicians play a crucial role in educating patients in order to prevent local transmission of Zika and the subsequent effects to Arizonans and their children.

- **First, clinicians need to discuss prevention with their patients.** Zika prevention messages overlap with those for maternal/child health, sexual health, and vector-borne diseases, and should easily fit into a physician's typical counseling. Specialized messages do pertain to pregnant women and all individuals traveling to Zika-affected areas. Resources for preventive messages include a [one-pager](#) (attached) and the [CDC prevention website](#).
- **Second, clinicians need to coordinate with public health if there is concern for Zika.** Public health departments across Arizona are the subject matter experts for Zika transmission, diagnosis and management. The Arizona State Public Health Laboratory can perform the complete testing cascade for eligible patients, at no charge. [Algorithms for determining Zika testing eligibility](#) and contacts for [local health departments](#) are available.

Zika is but the most recent threat to Arizona's health. Arizona clinicians and public health must communicate what they are seeing in clinic and the community, respectively. Clinicians can sign up for the [Arizona Health Alert Network](#) or download the Arizona-based [IDAZ Mobile App](#) to receive statewide alerts and to call public health with a single click.

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