

EPI Update for Friday, February 12, 2016
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **U.S. Zika virus activity**
- **Zika virus testing**
- **Zika virus in brain and placental tissue**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

U.S. Zika virus activity

As of February 10, 2016, 52 travel-associated Zika virus cases in the U.S. states have been reported to the CDC. There have also been reports of nine locally-acquired cases and one travel-associated case reported in U.S. territories.

Zika virus testing

Healthcare providers suspecting a potential case of Zika virus should contact IDPH's Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology at 800-362-2736. If the case meets the CDC testing criteria, CADE will work with the provider on what specimens to collect and arrange for the specimens to be delivered to the State Hygienic Laboratory where they will be packaged and sent to the CDC.

For more information on Zika, visit www.cdc.gov/zika/ or idph.iowa.gov/ehi/zika.

Zika virus in brain and placental tissue

CDC reported this week that Zika virus infection was found in tissue from two deceased newborns with microcephaly and two miscarriages from the state of Rio Grande do Norte in Brazil. All four mothers had clinical signs of Zika virus infection during the first trimester of pregnancy. Specific specimens (brain and/or placental tissue) from all four cases were positive by RT-PCR. Thus, there is now evidence of a direct link between Zika virus infection and microcephaly and fetal demise through detection of viral RNA and antigens in brain tissues from infants with microcephaly and placental tissues from early miscarriages.

For more information about these findings, visit www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6506e1er.htm.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

Iowa Statewide Infection Prevention and Control Conference. Save the date: Iowa Infection Prevention and Control Conference, Cedar Rapids Marriott Hotel and Conference Center May 3 – 4, 2016. Online registration is at [UI Center for Conferences](#).

Have a healthy and happy week!

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