



## OSAP Knowledge Center: Zika Virus Webinar Implementation Guide

### Target Dental Healthcare Team Audience:

- Dentist
- Dental Hygienist
- Dental Assistant
- Office Personnel

### Summary of Importance of Zika Virus in Dental Healthcare Settings:

- Zika virus is an ongoing infectious disease threat to both the US, US territories, and globally. Zika is currently primarily impacting pregnant women and has been linked to serious birth defects and associated mortality and morbidity.
- Standard precautions are effective at prevention in the delivery of dental healthcare services.

### Key Messages:

- Zika virus is a virus that is primarily spread through either the bites of infected mosquitos or exposure to contaminated body fluids (i.e., through sexual transmission).
- For dental healthcare settings, standard precautions should be used as normal when potential exposure to body fluids.
- Disinfection processes should remain the same, as well as for hand hygiene (using either soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub). No specific disinfectant or hand hygiene agent is necessary to inactivate Zika virus. Normally used healthcare products are effective and acceptable.
- Pregnant women (i.e., dental healthcare staff) should consult with their OB/GYN or PCP before traveling to areas with ongoing Zika transmission.
- In the dental healthcare setting, standing water should be eliminated and all windows and doors should be kept tightly closed to prevent mosquito infestation.
- Rapid laboratory methods can confirm suspected infection very quickly. Positive cases are publicly notifiable diseases per the direction of the CDC, so local public health authorities must be notified.

### Call to Action:

- Closely follow all recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local public health authorities.
- Follow standard precautions and report any potential cases to public health authorities.
- Educate staff members and patients about prevention and recognition of symptoms.

### Additional Resources:

- <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/index.html>
- [http://www.osap.org/?page=Issues\\_ZikaVirus](http://www.osap.org/?page=Issues_ZikaVirus)

To learn more, visit the OSAP Knowledge Center: <http://www.osap.org/?page=KnowledgeCenter>

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