March 28, 2016

Did a colleague forward this to you? Subscribe here for future COCA Updates.

This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from March 14 - March 28.

The next COCA Update is scheduled for April 11.

For questions about these or other clinical issues, please write to us at coca@cdc.gov.

Additional Resources
CDC Emergency on Twitter
CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity on Facebook
COCA Home Page

Topics and Highlights
- COCA News and Announcements
- CDC Emergency Response
- CDC News and Announcements
- Public Health Preparedness
- Natural Disasters and Severe Weather
- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)
- Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases
- Travel Safety
- Food, Drug, and Device Safety

See the New US Zika Pregnancy Registry under 2016 Zika Virus

COCA News and Announcements

Upcoming COCA Calls

Synthetic Cannabinoids: Information and Guidance for Clinicians
Date: Thursday, March 31, 2016
Time: 1:00-2:00 pm (Eastern Time)
Dial In Number: 800-857-9697 (U.S. Callers); 312-470-7286 (International Callers)
Passcode: 8433871
During this COCA Call, clinicians will learn about synthetic cannabinoids, their clinical effects, and the role clinicians can play in the public health response.
http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo_033116.asp

Recent COCA Calls

Update on Interim Zika Virus Clinical Guidance and Recommendations
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2016
During this COCA Call, participants learned why CDC has updated the clinical guidelines and how they can use the guidelines for Zika virus evaluation and testing.
http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo_022516.asp

High Burden, Great Opportunity: Preventing Heart Attacks and Strokes
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2016
During this COCA Call, clinicians learned about the components of Million Hearts® and the strategies to help find and address the needs of those at greatest risk for cardiovascular disease.
http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo_022316.asp

2015-2016 Influenza Activity and Clinical Recommendations
Date: Tuesday, February 16, 2016
During this COCA Call, clinicians learned about 2015-2016 influenza activity, heard an overview of CDC’s current recommendations for vaccination and antiviral medications, and gained insight into data supporting the
recommendations.

http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo_021616.asp

Archived COCA conference calls are available at emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp.
Free continuing education credits (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) are available for most calls. For more information about free CE, visit emergency.cdc.gov/coca/continuingeducation.asp

CDC Emergency Response

2016 Zika Virus

Clinicians Caring for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age

NEW: US Zika Pregnancy Registry
To understand more about Zika virus infection during pregnancy and congenital Zika virus infection, CDC established the US Zika Pregnancy Registry and is collaborating with state, tribal, local, and territorial health departments. The data collected through this registry will be used to update recommendations for clinical care, to plan for services for pregnant women and families affected by Zika virus, and to improve prevention of Zika virus infection during pregnancy.


NEW: MMWR: Interim Guidance for Health-Care Providers Caring for Women of Reproductive Age with Possible Zika Virus Exposure — United States, 2016
CDC has updated its interim guidance for U.S. health-care providers caring for women of reproductive age with possible Zika virus exposure to include recommendations for counseling women and men with possible Zika virus exposure who are interested in conceiving. The updated guidelines also include recommendations for Zika virus testing and guidance for women residing along the US-Mexico Border.

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6512e2er.htm?s_cid=mm6512e2er_w

NEW: Tools for Health-Care Providers
View printable and easy to use CDC testing algorithms for Zika virus infection.

UPDATED: Clinical Consultation Service for Health-Care Providers Caring for Pregnant Women with Possible Zika Virus Infection
CDC maintains a 24/7 consultation service for health-care providers caring for pregnant women with possible Zika virus infection. This consultation service is NOT for patients or the general public. To contact the service, call CDC-INFO at 800-232-4636 or email ZikaMCH@cdc.gov.

Approximately two thirds of pregnancies in Puerto Rico are unintended. An estimated 138,000 women of reproductive age (15–44 years) in Puerto Rico do not desire pregnancy and are not using an effective contraceptive method. Access to contraception is constrained by limited availability, especially of highly effective long-acting reversible contraceptives, high cost, incomplete insurance coverage, and lack of trained providers.

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6512e1er.htm?s_cid=mm6512e1er_w

CDC recommends Standard Precautions in all health-care settings to protect both health-care personnel and patients from infection with Zika virus as well as from blood-borne pathogens (e.g., human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] and hepatitis C virus [HCV]).

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6511e3.htm?s_cid=mm6511e3_w
Updated guidelines include a new recommendation to offer serologic testing to asymptomatic pregnant women (women who do not report clinical illness consistent with Zika virus disease) who have traveled to areas with ongoing Zika virus transmission. This update also expands guidance to women who reside in areas with ongoing Zika virus transmission. Local health officials should determine when to implement testing of asymptomatic pregnant women on the basis of information about levels of Zika virus transmission and laboratory capacity.

Clinicians Caring for Infants and Children

CDC has updated its interim guidelines for U.S. health-care providers caring for infants born to mothers who traveled to or resided in areas with Zika virus transmission during pregnancy and expanded guidelines to include infants and children with possible acute Zika virus disease.

Sexual Transmission

The following recommendations apply to men who have traveled to or reside in areas with active Zika virus transmission and their female or male sex partners. These recommendations replace the previously issued recommendations and are updated to include time intervals after travel to areas with active Zika virus transmission or after Zika virus infection for taking precautions to reduce the risk for sexual transmission.

Zika Travel Information

During January 1, 2015–February 26, 2016, a total of 116 residents of U.S. states and the District of Columbia had laboratory evidence of recent Zika virus infection based on testing performed at CDC, including one congenital infection and 115 persons who reported recent travel to areas with active Zika virus transmission (n = 110) or sexual contact with such a traveler (n = 5).

MMWR: Revision to CDC’s Zika Travel Notices: Minimal Likelihood for Mosquito-Borne Zika Virus Transmission at Elevations Above 2,000 Meters
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6510e1er.htm?s_cid=mm6510e1er_w
Zika Virus Infection Among U.S. Pregnant Travelers — August 2015–February 2016
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6508e1er.htm?s_cid=mm6508e1er_e

CDC Issues Advice for Travel to the 2016 Summer Olympic Games

Zika Travel Notices

Conferences and Meetings

NEW: A CDC Update for Clinicians on Zika Virus Disease with Platform Q Health
Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2016
Time: 1:00 - 2:00 pm (Eastern Time)
Join us for this educational activity to learn the latest information about Zika and to gain a better understanding of the role of clinicians in early recognition and reporting of suspected cases. Learn more about the event:
http://www.pages02.net/platformqhealth/zikaupdatecdc/?refcode=cdc_zika_040116

UPDATED: Zika Action Plan Summit
CDC is hosting a one-day Zika Action Plan Summit as the nation faces likely local mosquito-borne transmission of Zika virus in some places in the continental United States. Register to watch the Summit live.
http://www.cdc.gov/zap/index.html

Clinical Evaluation and Testing

NEW: Biosafety Guidance for Transportation of Specimens and for Work with Zika Virus in the Laboratory

NEW: CDC Laboratory Test for Zika Virus Authorized for Emergency Use by FDA
In response to a request from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued an Emergency Use Authorization for the Triplex Real-time RT-PCR Assay, a diagnostic tool for Zika virus that will be distributed to qualified laboratories.

Clinical Evaluation & Disease
Zika virus is transmitted to humans primarily through the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito. Most people infected with Zika virus are asymptomatic. Characteristic clinical findings are acute onset of fever with maculopapular rash, arthralgia, or conjunctivitis. Other commonly reported symptoms include myalgia and headache.

Diagnostic Testing
Contact your state or local health department to facilitate testing.

Collection and Submission of Body Fluids for Zika Virus Testing

State and Local Health Department Resources

Top 10 Zika Response Planning Tips: Brief Information for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Health Officials

Zika Virus Risk-Based Preparedness and Response Guidance for States

Zika Virus Microsite
CDC has developed an easily embeddable collection of Zika virus information for partner and stakeholder websites. This collection, called a microsite, can supplement partner web sites with CDC’s up-to-date,
evidence-based content. The content is automatically updated when CDC’s website is updated. [https://tools.cdc.gov/mediailibrary/index.aspx#microsite/id/234558](https://tools.cdc.gov/mediailibrary/index.aspx#microsite/id/234558)

### 2014 Ebola in the United States and West Africa

*UPDATED:* Case Counts  

Frequently Asked Questions on Screening for Ebola Virus Disease for Providers, Health-Care Facilities and Health Departments  

Interim Guidance for Management of Survivors of Ebola Virus Disease in U.S. Health-Care Settings  

Messages for the Care of Survivors of Ebola  

### CDC News and Announcements

*NEW:* Changes in the CDC/ATSDR Formaldehyde in Laminate Flooring Report  
After correcting the measurement error in the model, CDC/ATSDR revised the report’s conclusion about possible health effects from exposure to formaldehyde. In the updated report, which used the correct value for ceiling height, we concluded that irritation and breathing problems could occur in everyone exposed to formaldehyde in the laminate flooring, not just sensitive groups and people with pre-existing health conditions.  

CDC Science Clips: Volume 8, Issue: 12  
Each week select science clips are shared with the public health community to enhance awareness of emerging scientific knowledge. The focus is applied public health research and prevention science that has the capacity to improve health now.  

### Public Health Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness and Response for Health Professionals – (CDC)  
Find preparedness resources for health professionals at  
[http://emergency.cdc.gov/health-professionals.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/health-professionals.asp)

Emergency Preparedness and Response Training Resources for Clinicians – (CDC)  
Find online and in-person training resources at  
[emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp)

### Natural Disasters and Severe Weather

**Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)**

MMWR publications are prepared by CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html

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- **Leveling of Tuberculosis Incidence — United States, 2013–2015**  
- **Photokeratitis Linked to Metal Halide Bulbs in Two Gymnasiums — Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2011 and 2013**

**Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases**

**Seasonal Influenza**

**What You Should Know for the 2015-2016 Influenza Season – (CDC)**  

**Information for Health Professionals – (CDC)**  
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm

**Weekly Flu View – March 19 (CDC)**  
Flu View is a weekly influenza surveillance report prepared by CDC’s Influenza Division. All data are preliminary and may change as CDC receives more reports.  
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

**Planning and Preparedness: Health Professionals and Seasonal Flu – (HHS)**  
Health-care providers play an important role during flu season. The following guidance and information will assist health-care providers and service organizations to plan and respond to seasonal flu.  
www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/hospital/index.html

**Travel Safety**

**Current Travel Warnings – March 22 (U.S. Department of State)**  
The U.S. Department of State issues Travel Warnings when long-term, protracted conditions make a country dangerous or unstable. Travel Warnings recommend that Americans avoid or carefully consider the risk of travel to that country. The State Department also issues Travel Warnings when the U.S. government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of State Department staff.  
travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html
Food, Drug, and Device Safety

NEW: Opioid Pain Medicines: Drug Safety Communication - New Safety Warnings Added to Prescription Opioid Medications

FDA is warning about several safety issues with the entire class of opioid pain medicines. See the FDA Drug Safety Communication for a complete listing. These safety risks are potentially harmful interactions with numerous other medications, problems with the adrenal glands, and decreased sex hormone levels. We are requiring changes to the labels of all opioid drugs to warn about these risks.


NEW: Best Bentonite Clay by Best Bentonite: FDA Alert - Risk of Lead Poisoning

FDA laboratories have found elevated levels of lead in “Best Bentonite Clay.” Consumers should not purchase or use “Best Bentonite Clay.” Anyone who has used this product or given it to a child should consult a health-care professional immediately.


NEW: GlideScope Titanium Single-Use Video Laryngoscope by Verathon: Class I Recall - Potential Video Feed Disruption

A disrupted or unstable video image may lead to delayed tracheal tube insertion, intubation failure and other serious adverse health consequences, including low levels of oxygen in the blood (hypoxemia), end organ damage or death.


MedWatch: The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program – (FDA)

MedWatch is your Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gateway for clinically important safety information and reporting serious problems with human medical products.

http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/default.htm

FoodSafety.gov: Reports of FDA and USDA Food Recalls, Alerts, Reporting, and Resources – (HHS/USDA/FDA/CDC/NIH)

FoodSafety.gov lists notices of recalls and alerts from both FDA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Visitors to the site can report a problem or make inquiries.

www.foodsafety.gov/recalls/recent/index.html

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