

ZIKA VIRUS: COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION OF PLACENTAL AND FETAL TISSUES FOR ZIKA VIRUS TESTING



General Information

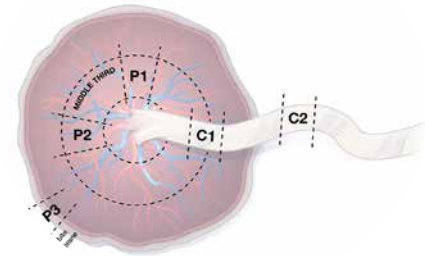
The following information applies to placental (e.g., placental disk, umbilical cord, and fetal membranes) and fetal or infant autopsy tissue collection and submission. For serum, urine, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), and other body fluid analysis, please see [CDC's web page on testing body fluid specimens](#).

IMPORTANT: Pre-approval is required prior to submission of any tissue specimens. For pre-approval please contact pathology@cdc.gov and eocevent189@cdc.gov.

For guidance regarding for which Zika virus testing on placental tissues should be considered, please see [Interim Guidance for Health Care Providers Caring for Pregnant Women with Possible Zika Virus Exposure — United States \(Including U.S. Territories\)](#).

Healthcare Providers: Please make sure that your state, territorial, tribal, or local health department has been notified and has received pre-approval from CDC for submission and shipment of specimens before they are collected and sent.

- » **Institutions with surgical pathology available:** Please consult surgical pathology regarding appropriate collection and processing of specimens for Zika virus testing.
- » **Institutions without surgical pathology available:** Please see table below for general guide on collection of tissue specimens for Zika virus testing.
- » **Specimens should ONLY be sent to CDC from health departments.**
- **Health Departments:** Pre-approval is required prior to the submission of specimens to CDC. **Minimum information required** for the pre-approval process includes the following:
 - » Maternal/infant state and specimen identification numbers, maternal age, maternal and infant Zika virus test results (if available), dates of possible maternal Zika virus exposure and locations of exposure (if applicable), illness onset (if applicable), estimated date of delivery, gestational age at delivery, pregnancy outcome, sex of infant, birth anthropometric measurements (head circumference, weight, and length) and significant physical exam findings, any additional testing/imaging.
 - » Pre-approval and specimen processing can be delayed if required information is missing.
- **Please Note:** [CDC Form 50.34](#) is required to be submitted with all specimens. **One hard copy (per case)** of the CDC 50.34 form should be submitted with the formalin-fixed wet tissues or formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded tissue blocks at ambient temperature. Please do not submit multiple copies of the CDC 50.34 per case.
 - » Select Test Order CDC-10365 “Pathologic Evaluation of Tissues for Possible Infectious Etiologies.”
 - » Select “Zika Virus” as the suspect agent from the drop down menu.
 - » The remaining items must be completed electronically and then printed.
 - » If the placenta is submitted to surgical pathology, or a fetal or infant autopsy is conducted, a copy of the preliminary or final surgical pathology and/or fetal or infant autopsy report should be enclosed with the specimen submission paperwork.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention