



Michigan Local Health Departments,

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Laboratories is announcing changes to Zika virus testing available at MDHHS. Please see the notice below that was recently sent to Michigan healthcare laboratory providers:

*Laboratory System Partner,*

*Since May, 2016 the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services Bureau of Laboratories (MDHHS BOL) has offered screening for Zika virus antibodies and viral RNA due to the public health emergence of Zika virus. This testing also included Dengue virus and Chikungunya virus serology and molecular testing as part of an Emerging Arbovirus panel.*

*Due to budget constraints, as of **March 20, 2018** the Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) **will no longer be able to offer screening services for Zika virus testing.** Several commercial laboratories now routinely offer Zika serology and PCR testing to offset the need for testing at MDHHS BOL. BOL will continue to serve as the Zika virus confirmatory testing center for Michigan residents who have had positive screening testing performed at another laboratory.*

*Healthcare providers can still request the MDHHS BOL Emerging Arbovirus Panel on a **case by case basis** for situations where assays available through commercial labs do not meet their needs. Babies born with findings consistent with Zika virus infection may also be tested by arrangement. Contact an MDHHS Epidemiologist at 517-335-8165 to discuss cases and obtain approval for testing.*

**In summary, as of March 20, 2018 BOL will no longer offer screening services for Zika virus testing. All requests for Zika Virus testing at BOL must first be approved through the Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health at 517-335-8165.**



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