

# Zika Virus Update

## West Virginia Action Plan

Joel Massey, MD  
Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer  
Sherri A. Young, DO, FAAFP  
State Immunization Officer  
Local Health Officer Summit  
April 9, 2016



# History of Zika Virus

**1947: Zika virus (ZIKV) was isolated from a febrile monkey in Uganda**

**1951–1981: ZIKV reported sporadically in humans in central Africa, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam**

**2007: ZIKV outbreak reported on Yap Island, Federated States of Micronesia; attack rate 73%**

**No increased incidence of fetal abnormalities reported in Yap**

# ZIKV Comes to America

**2007–2015: Several pacific islands reported ZIKV outbreaks and sporadic disease activity**

**May 2015: Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) issued an alert that cases of ZIKV were confirmed in Brazil**

**February 8, 2016: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) elevated ZIKV response efforts to a Level 1 activation due to active transmission reported in 36 countries**

**March 30, 2016: There were 315 travel-associated cases in the US and its territories**

# Areas of Active ZIKV Transmission



**March 10, 2016: West Virginia reported first lab-confirmed travel-associated ZIKV case**

**Another emerging infectious disease**

- 2013: Chikungunya
- 2014: Ebola
- 2015: Zika

**Travel-associated ZIKV cases pose an infection risk for residents of West Virginia**

## **Arbovirus in the flavivirus family**

- Flavivirus family includes Dengue, West Nile, Yellow Fever

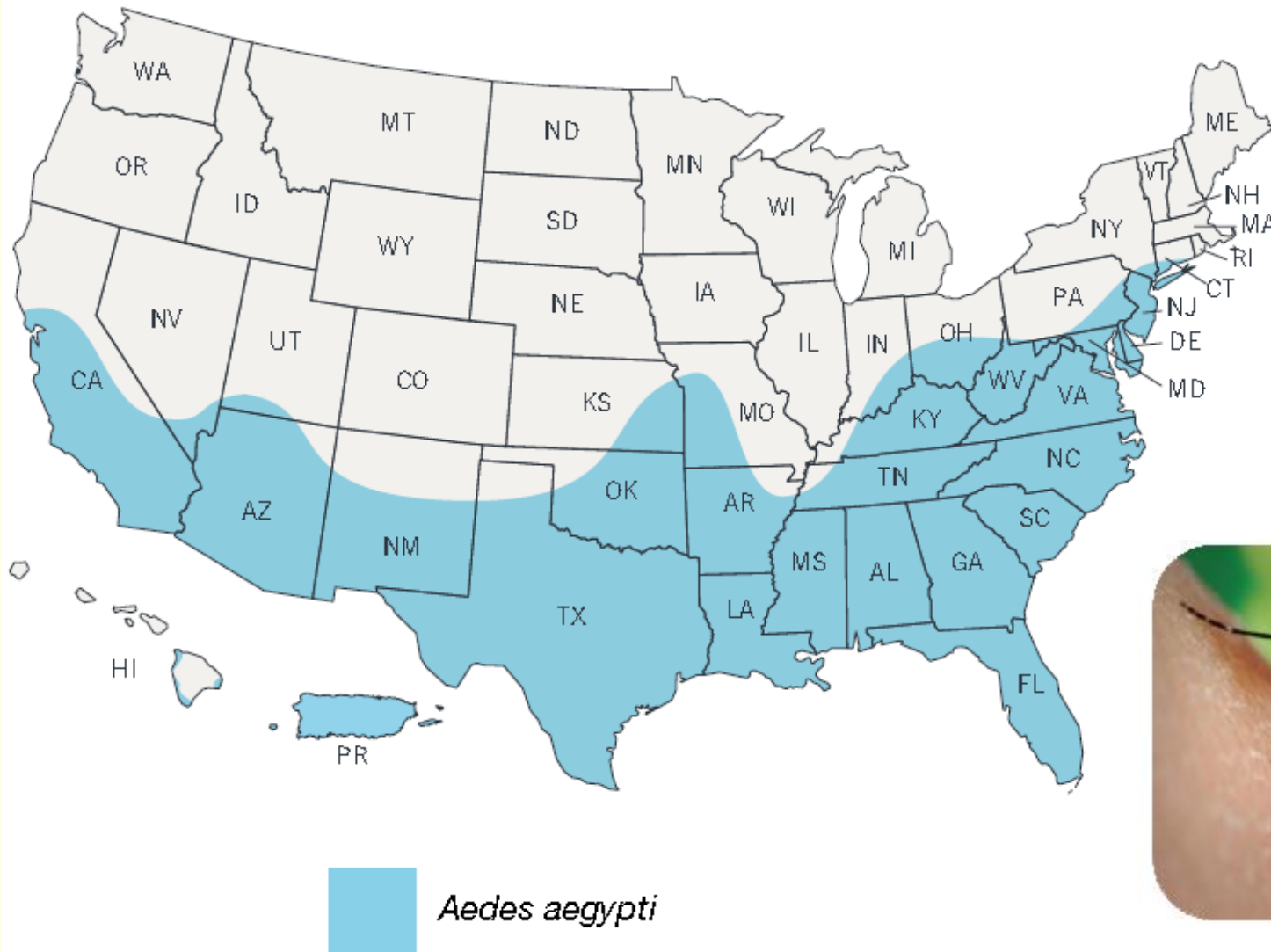
## **Transmitted primarily by the bite of *Aedes* mosquitoes**

- *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* are present in the US

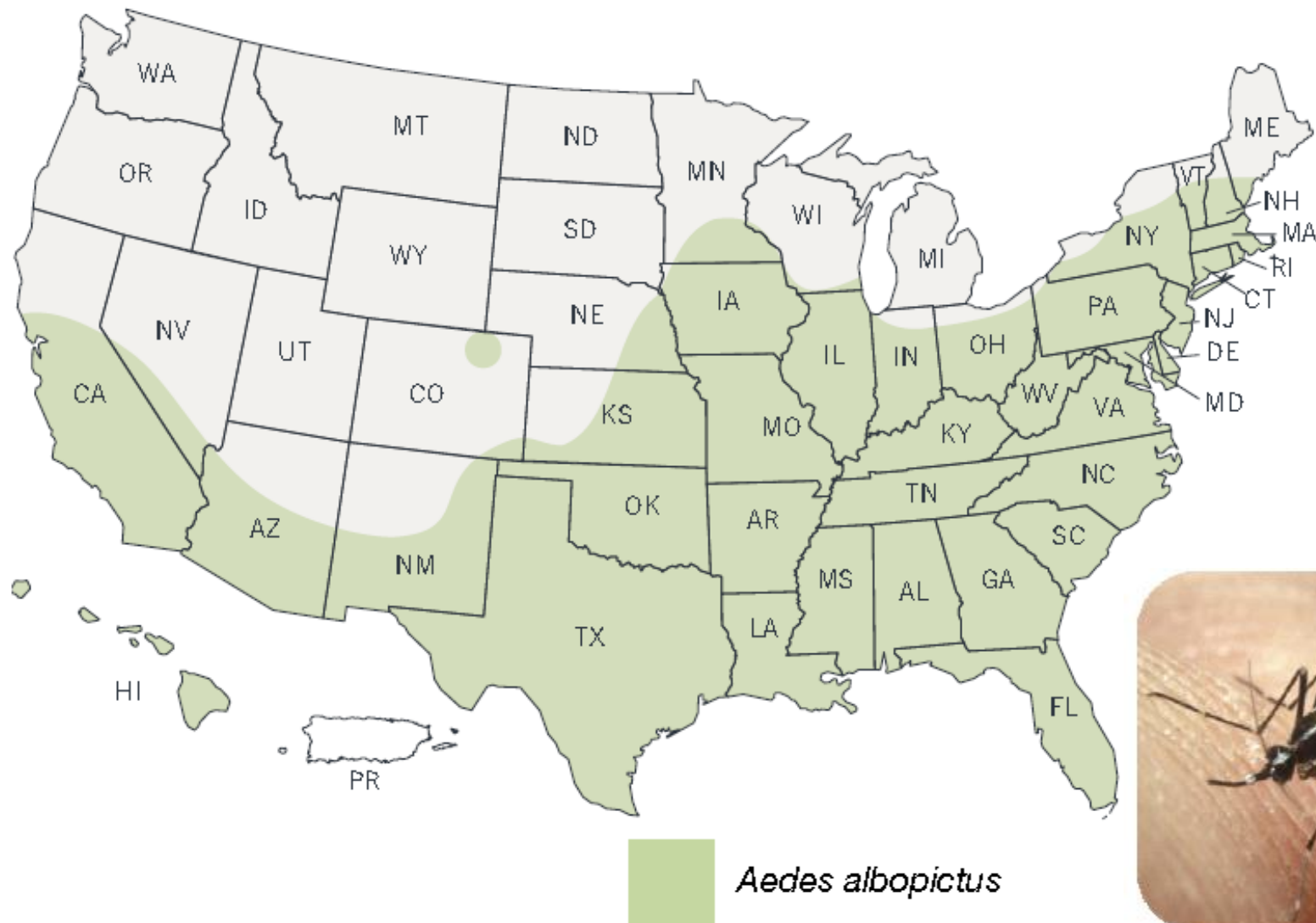
## **Does not require development or amplification in the vector**

- Rapid autochthonous transmission in densely populated areas

# *Aedes aegypti* Range



# *Aedes albopictus* Range





# Possible ZIKV Vector in West Virginia

## *Aedes albopictus*

- Aggressive daytime feeder
- Multiple bites before resting
- Container breeder
- Competent vector for:
  - Chikungunya
  - Dengue
  - La Crosse Encephalitis
  - Zika



WEST VIRGINIA  
Department of  
**Health & Human  
Resources**  
BUREAU FOR PUBLIC HEALTH



## **Vertical transmission (maternal-child) across the placenta or during delivery**

- No documented cases from breastfeeding

## **Sexual transmission (through semen)**

- Unknown how long ZIKV remains alive in semen
- Semen testing not recommended by CDC

## **Blood transfusion**

## **Tissue donation**

# Transmission is Possible in West Virginia

**What this means for patients**

**Clinical disease**

**Public health implications**

## Symptoms

- Fever
- Rash (macules & papules)
- Arthralgia
- Conjunctivitis
- Myalgia
- Headache

**Illness lasts 2–7 days**

## Treatment

- Rest
- Oral hydration
- Acetaminophen for fever, pain
- Avoid NSAIDs

**80% are asymptomatic**



# ZIKV Symptoms

Zika can cause:



Mild fever



Conjunctivitis



Headache and  
joint pain



Skin rash

## **Virus detection: within 7 days of illness onset**

- RT-PCR (real time polymerase chain reaction) at CDC

## **Serology: 2-12 weeks after exposure**

- IgM ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay)
- Cross-reacts with Dengue, Yellow Fever, JEV (false positives)

## **Immunohistochemical staining: after delivery or evacuation**

- Tissues from placenta and umbilical cord

## **Microcephaly and cerebral microcalcifications associated with the 2015 Brazilian outbreak**

- More than 4,000 microcephaly cases reported in 2015
- Study released March 2016 revised case number to 574
- Prior case rate of 157 cases per year

## **Guillain-Barré syndrome**

- French Polynesia
- Central and South America
- Caribbean



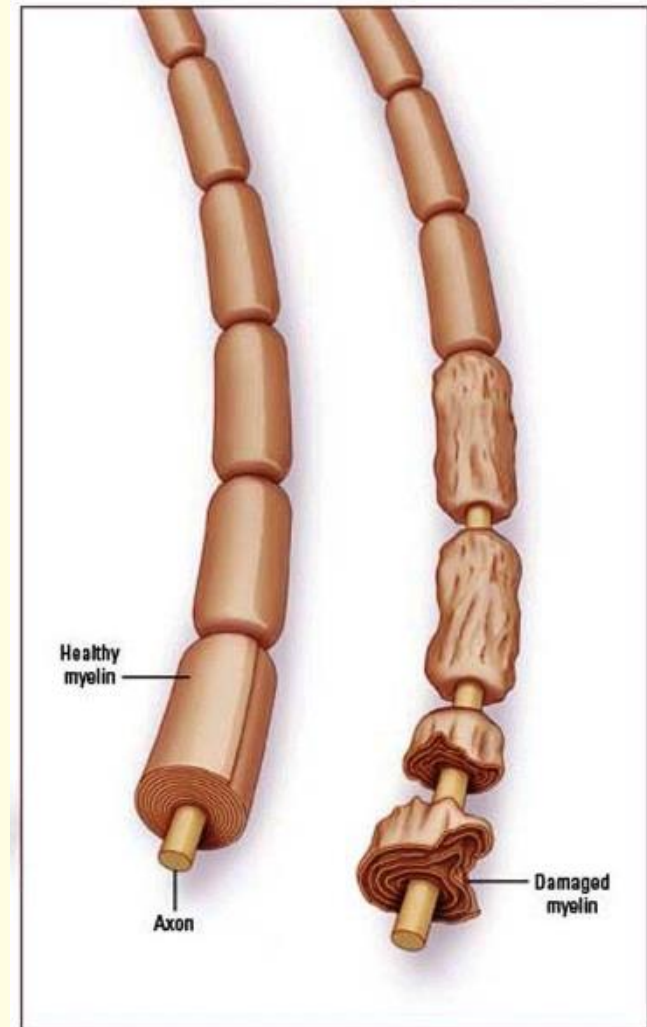
# Guillain-Barré Syndrome

**Disease affecting peripheral nerves**

**Autoimmune process post-infection**

**Symptoms include**

- Symmetric ascending weakness
- Sensory component common
- Affects adults > children
- Recovery may be protracted
- Mortality up to 20%



**No antiviral treatment or vaccine**

**No documented cases of ZIKV re-infection**

**Unknown duration of natural immunity**

**There is still a great deal to learn**

# What We Have Learned About ZIKV

**Rapid spread in tropical and subtropical regions**

**Microcephaly rate increased when introduced into an immune naïve area**

**Potential for spread in West Virginia**

**First arbovirus with confirmed sexual transmission**

**Often asymptomatic, silent threat to fetal development**

## **CDC has issued an Alert Level 2 for 39 countries**

- [wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information)

## **Mosquito avoidance and repellant recommendations**

- Stay above 2,000 meters elevation
- Full-coverage clothing treated with permethrin
- Applied to skin: DEET (30% is recommended; safe in >6 months old), or picaridin
- Area control: Metofluthrin (personal space repellant fans), oil of lemon-eucalyptus
- [www.mosquito.org/repellents](http://www.mosquito.org/repellents)

## **Condoms or abstinence for male partners of pregnant women**

[www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/index.html)

# Returning Travelers

## **West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health, Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (DIDE) resources:**

- [www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/zoonosis/mosquito/pages/zika.aspx](http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/zoonosis/mosquito/pages/zika.aspx)
- [www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Zoonosis/Mosquito/Documents/zika/Traveler-illness-form.pdf](http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Zoonosis/Mosquito/Documents/zika/Traveler-illness-form.pdf)
- DIDE on-call epidemiologist: (304) 558-5358 x1; after hours call (304) 423-1271

## **Prevention and monitoring**

- Identify state, regional and local action plans
- Educate medical providers and community leaders
- Volunteer vector surveillance
- Vector control (example: educate communities to eliminate objects that collect water, tire cleanups, community cleanups and general awareness)

## **If confirmed local transmission by mosquitoes occurs**

- Local health departments (LHDs) will reduce mosquito breeding habitats around the human case site
- Encourage human patients to have minimal mosquito exposure
- LHDs conduct environmental assessment and mosquito habitat control near case sites

# Who Should be Tested

**All exposed pregnant patients**

**Symptomatic returned travelers if they have pregnant partners or symptomatic sexual contacts**

**Newborns (to an exposed mother) that have microcephaly, cerebral microcalcifications, symptoms of ZIKV, or with a mother confirmed positive for ZIKV**

**When in doubt, call DIDE (reporting is required within 24 hrs)**



# Preconception Planning

**Women symptomatic from ZIKV should wait 8 weeks before attempting pregnancy**

**Men symptomatic from ZIKV should wait 6 months before attempting conception**

**Men and women with possible ZIKV exposure should wait 8 weeks before attempting conception**

**Residents of areas where active transmission occurs should consult a physician before attempting conception**

# What to Tell Pregnant Patients

**Postpone travel**

**Avoid mosquito bites**

**Avoid contact with infected semen or blood**

**Seek testing if exposed**

# Prenatal Care for ZIKV Exposed Patients

## **Negative serology**

- Routine care; consider additional fetal anatomy survey early 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester

## **Positive PCR or serology**

- False positives are less likely in travelers
- Serial fetal ultrasound every 3-4 weeks for microcalcifications or microcephaly
- Referral to Maternal Fetal Medicine
- Arrange for ZIKV testing at delivery of cord serum and placenta
- If fetal loss: RT-PCR and immunohistochemical staining of fetal tissues, cord, placenta

# Preventing Transmission to Healthcare Staff

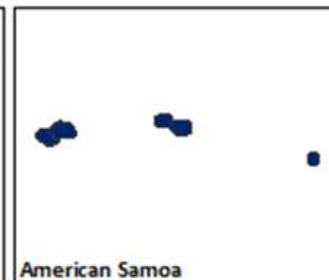
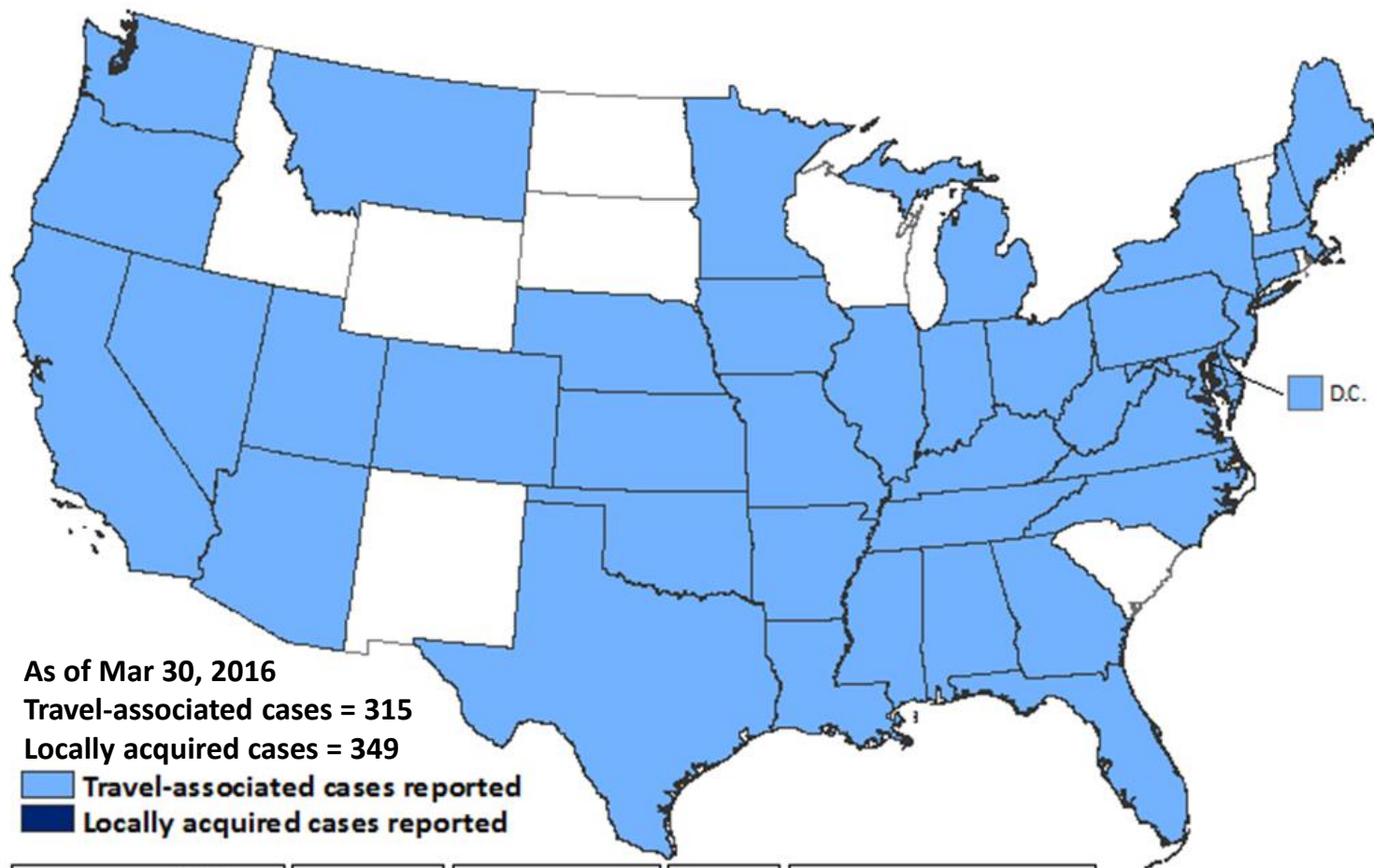
**Use standard precautions**

**Use personal protective equipment during exposure to body fluids and mucous membranes**

**Use disposable absorbent material on floor for cleaning around birthing procedures to reduce risk of splash**

**Use standard cleaning and disinfection procedures**

# ZIKV Cases



# Summary

**ZIKV may be a silent, devastating threat to the fetus**

**Educate patients who plan to travel**

**Educate the community for local transmission prevention**

**Report all cases within 24 hours to the health department**

**ZIKV transmission is possible in West Virginia**

## **CDC:**

- [www.cdc.gov/zika](http://www.cdc.gov/zika)

## **PAHO:**

- [www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=11585&Itemid=41688&lang=en](http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=11585&Itemid=41688&lang=en)

## **DIDE:**

- [www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Zoonosis/Mosquito/Pages/zika.aspx](http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Zoonosis/Mosquito/Pages/zika.aspx)
- Main: (304) 558-5358 ext. 1
- Answering service: (304) 423-1271

# Contact Information

**Joel Massey, MD**

**Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer**

**Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology**

**Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services**

**Bureau for Public Health**

**West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources**

**350 Capitol Street, Room 125**

**Charleston, WV 25301-3715**

**Office: (304) 356-4007**

**Fax: (304) 558-8736**

**Email: [joel.g.massey@wv.gov](mailto:joel.g.massey@wv.gov)**