



February 29, 2016

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This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from **February 16-29**.

The next COCA Update is scheduled for **March 14**.

For questions about these or other clinical issues, please write to us at [coca@cdc.gov](mailto:coca@cdc.gov).

#### Additional Resources

[CDC Emergency on Twitter](#)  
[CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity on Facebook](#)  
[COCA Home Page](#)

#### Topics and Highlights

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**See Zika Virus Infection Among U.S. Pregnant Travelers under CDC Emergency Responses**

## COCA News and Announcements

### Recent COCA Calls

#### **NEW: 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](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo_022516.asp)

#### **NEW: 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](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](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo_021616.asp)

#### **Zika Virus—What Clinicians Need to Know**

Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2016

During this COCA Call, participants learned about the epidemiology and clinical manifestations of Zika virus disease and how early recognition and reporting of suspected cases can mitigate the risk of local transmission.

[http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo\\_012616.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo_012616.asp)

Archived COCA conference calls are available at [emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp](http://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](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/continuingeducation.asp)

## CDC Emergency Response

### 2016 Zika Virus



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

##### **NEW: Transmission of Zika Virus Through Sexual Contact with Travelers to Areas of Ongoing Transmission — Continental United States, 2016**

This report provides information on six confirmed and probable cases of sexual transmission of Zika virus from male travelers to female nontravelers.

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6508e2er.htm?s\\_cid=mm6508e2er\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6508e2er.htm?s_cid=mm6508e2er_e)

##### **NEW: Zika Virus Infection Among U.S. Pregnant Travelers — August 2015–February 2016**

This report provides preliminary information on testing for Zika virus infection of U.S. pregnant women who have traveled to areas with Zika virus transmission.

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6508e1er.htm?s\\_cid=mm6508e1er\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6508e1er.htm?s_cid=mm6508e1er_e)

##### **UPDATE: Interim Guidelines for Health Care Providers Caring for Infants and Children with Possible Zika Virus Infection — United States, February 2016**

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.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6507e1.htm>

##### **Interim Guidelines for Health Care Providers Caring for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age with Possible Zika Virus Exposure — United States, 2016**

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.

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6505e2er.htm?s\\_cid=mm6505e2er.htm\\_w](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6505e2er.htm?s_cid=mm6505e2er.htm_w)

#### **Health Alert Network (HAN)**

##### **UPDATE: Interim Guidelines for Prevention of Sexual Transmission of Zika Virus — United States, 2016**

CDC is issuing this HAN Advisory as a strong reminder to state, local, and US territorial public health departments, clinicians, and the public to be aware of and adhere to current recommendations for preventing sexual transmission of Zika virus, particularly for men with pregnant partners.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00388.asp>

#### **Zika Travel Information**

##### **NEW: CDC Adds 2 Destinations to Interim Travel Guidance Related to Zika Virus**

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/s0223-zika-travel.html>

#### **Zika Travel Notices**

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-travel-information>

#### **Questions and Answers**

##### **NEW: Zika and Sexual Transmission**

<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/transmission/sexual-transmission.html>

**NEW: For Healthcare Providers Caring for Infants and Children with Possible Zika Virus Infection**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/qa-pediatrician.html>

**For Healthcare Providers Caring for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age with Possible Zika Virus Exposure**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/qa-pregnant-women.html>

### **Additional Resources**

**NEW: Collection and Submission of Body Fluids for Zika Virus Testing**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/body-fluids-collection-submission.html>

**NEW: Transcript for CDC Telebriefing: Zika**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/a0226-cdc-zika-response.html>

### **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.  
<https://tools.cdc.gov/medialibrary/index.aspx#/microsite/id/234558>

### **Clinical Evaluation**

The primary way Zika virus is spread to people is through mosquito bites. The most common symptoms of Zika virus disease are fever, rash, joint pain, and conjunctivitis. Transmission of the virus from mother to newborn can occur if the mother is infected with the Zika virus near the time of delivery.  
<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/clinicalevaluation.html>

### **Diagnostic Testing**

Zika virus disease can often be diagnosed by performing reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) on serum. Testing is performed at the CDC Arbovirus Diagnostic Laboratory. Contact your state health department to facilitate testing.  
<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/diagnostic.html>

### **CDC's Zika Virus Digital Press Kit**

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/dpk/2016/dpk-zika-virus.html>

### **Emerging Infections Diseases Letter: Detection of Zika Virus in Semen**

"We report additional evidence for this potential route of transmission after identification of an imported case of ZIKV infection into the United Kingdom."  
[http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/22/5/16-0107\\_article](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/22/5/16-0107_article)

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

### **UPDATED: Case Counts**

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/case-counts.html>

### **NEW: Enhanced Entry Airport Screening and Routing for Ebola to End for Travelers from Guinea to the United States**

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/s0218-ebola-airport-screening.html>



## **CDC News and Announcements**

### **NEW: Flu Vaccine Nearly 60 Percent Effective**

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/flu-vaccine-60-percent.html>

### **CDC Science Clips: Volume 8, Issue: 8**

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.

[www.cdc.gov/library/sciclips/issues/](http://www.cdc.gov/library/sciclips/issues/)

## 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>

### 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



### Food and Water Needs: Preparing for a Disaster or Emergency – (CDC)

[emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/foodwater/prepare.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/foodwater/prepare.asp)

### Health and Safety Concerns for All Disasters – (CDC)

[emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/alldisasters.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/alldisasters.asp)

## Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

MMWR publications are prepared by CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to

[www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html)

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- [Outbreak of Foodborne Botulism Associated with Improperly Jarred Pesto — Ohio and California, 2014](#)
- [Evaluation of Routine HIV Opt-Out Screening and Continuum of Care Services Following Entry into Eight Prison Reception Centers — California, 2012](#)
- [Prevalence of Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Intake Among Adults — 23 States and the District of Columbia, 2013](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Ebola Virus Disease Response Activities During a Mass Displacement Event After Flooding — Freetown, Sierra Leone, September–November, 2015](#)

## Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases

### Seasonal Influenza

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

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season-2015-2016.htm>

## Information for Health Professionals – (CDC)

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm>

## Weekly Flu View – February 20 (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)

Healthcare providers play an important role during flu season. The following guidance and information will assist healthcare providers and service organizations to plan and respond to seasonal flu.

[www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/hospital/index.html](http://www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/hospital/index.html)

## Travel Safety

### Current Travel Warnings – February 23 (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](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html)

## Food, Drug, and Device Safety

### **NEW:** Multistate Outbreak of Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli O157 Infections Linked to Alfalfa Sprouts Produced by Jack & The Green Sprouts– (CDC)

Nine people infected with the outbreak strain of Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli O157 (STEC O157) have been reported from two states: Minnesota (7) and Wisconsin (2).

<http://www.cdc.gov/ecoli/2016/o157-02-16/index.html>

### **NEW:** Multistate Outbreak of Salmonella Muenchen Infections Linked to Alfalfa Sprouts Produced by Sweetwater Farms– (CDC)

Thirteen people infected with the outbreak strain of Salmonella Muenchen have been reported from four states.

<http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/muenchen-02-16/index.html>

### **UPDATE:** Central Venous Catheters and Pressure Monitoring Sets and Trays by Cook Medical: Recall - Catheter Tip Fracture and/or Separation – (FDA)

The FDA has identified this as a Class I recall, the most serious type of recall. Use of these devices may cause serious injuries or death.

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm485910.htm>

### **NEW:** Neurosurgical Head Holders (Skull Clamps) : FDA Safety Communication - Device Slippage– (FDA)

From January 2009 to January 2016, the FDA received more than 1,000 medical device reports (MDRs) associated with the slippage or movement of a skull clamp before and/or during surgical procedures, resulting in more than 700 injuries.

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm487745.htm>

### **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.

[www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/default.htm](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](http://www.foodsafety.gov/recalls/recent/index.html)

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The Emergency Risk Communication Branch in the Division of Emergency Operations, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response is responsible for the management of all COCA products.

**For information about this update or other clinical issues, or to send your feedback, please contact us at [coca@cdc.gov](mailto:coca@cdc.gov)**

[CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity Facebook page](#) – connect with COCA on Facebook

[Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity](#) – resources for health care providers

[COCA RSS Feed](#) – subscribe to be notified of conference calls, updates, and CDC guidance for health providers

[Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication Training](#) – training program that draws from lessons learned during public health emergencies, and incorporates best practices from the fields of risk and crisis communication

[Health Alert Network](#) – CDC's primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories



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