



Indiana State Department of Health

Zika Virus Specimen Collection and Transport Guidelines Whole Blood/Serum

Specimens:

Both an acute and a convalescent serum specimen are requested. The convalescent serum specimen should be collected 2-3 weeks after the acute draw.

For each specimen:

Submit at least 1 mL of serum in a screw-capped tube. Alternatively, collect at least 3 mL of whole blood in a serum separator or red-top tube (serum separators include tiger top and gold-top tubes). Label the specimen tube with the patient's name (first and last), date of birth, specimen type, and date of collection. Whole blood specimens collected in serum separator tubes may be centrifuged prior to shipping.

Storage:

Once collected, place the specimen at 2-8°C until ready to ship. Hemolyzed specimens will not be accepted or tested. Specimens should be shipped to the ISDH on cold packs within 24-48 hours from the time of collection.

Paperwork:

Complete the CDC request form, ensuring that the patient information on the collection tube matches the information on the form. One form is required per specimen.

Test order name:

Arbovirus Special Study

Please fill out as much patient information as possible in the pdf of the CDC request form. **Patient history, including a brief clinical summary, date of symptom onset, exposure history, and travel history (including dates and countries of travel) are required for specimen submission.** Make sure you include your fax number where the final report can be sent, as this is how results will be conveyed. Once complete, **save your work and print the form.** Include the completed CDC request form in the specimen shipment.

Shipping:

Specimens should be shipped Category B (UN3373 Biological Substances) on cold packs. Wrap the labeled specimen tube with absorbent material and place in a watertight secondary container. Place the watertight secondary container in a rigid outer container. Place the paperwork in the outer container or in a plastic bag before placing in the shipping container.

Specimens should be shipped to arrive at ISDH Monday through Friday.

Our address:

Indiana State Department of Health Laboratories
Attention: Virology Laboratory
550 W. 16th Street, Suite B
Indianapolis, IN 46202

For questions or comments regarding specimen collection, storage, or transport, please contact:

Stephanie Dearth (317)921-5843 [supervisor]