



# EPI WATCH

Monthly Epidemiology Newsletter

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## Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

### Disease Reporting

To report diseases and clusters of illness:

Phone: (727) 824-6932

Fax: (727) 484-3865  
(excluding HIV/AIDS)

To report HIV/AIDS by mail:  
Surveillance Room 3-138  
205 Dr. MLK Jr St. N

As of February 3, the CDC recommends avoiding all nonessential travel to the People's Republic of China (Level 3 Warning)

For More Information:  
[www.CDC.gov/travel/notices/warning/novel-coronavirus-china](http://www.CDC.gov/travel/notices/warning/novel-coronavirus-china)

[CDC Recommends Antiviral drugs for people at high risk for flu complications](#)

## 2019 Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

The Florida Department of Health is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor the current outbreak of 2019 novel coronavirus and is actively working to ensure that the most up-to-date CDC guidance is quickly and accurately disseminated to local partners. Though no

cases have been reported in Florida to date, the Department is coordinating closely with our local partners to investigate, confirm, contain and report any suspected cases, should they occur.

For the best available information regarding 2019 novel coronavirus, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>.

CDC–2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019nCoV)  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>

CDC–Symptoms and Diagnosis  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/about/symptoms.html>.

WHO–Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)  
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Please review the CDC–Situation Summary for the most up to date surveillance information.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html>.

## 2019-nCoV Guidance for Healthcare Providers

All Hospitals should be prepared for suspected or confirmed novel coronavirus cases. Please review the CDC's [Hospital Preparedness Checklist](#).

Healthcare Professionals should stay up to date with case definitions and symptoms. Please review the CDC's [Healthcare Professional Checklist](#).

**Novel Coronavirus Outbreak (2019-nCoV)**

**Symptoms\* of Novel Coronavirus**

Patients with 2019-nCoV have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

\* Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure. If you have been in China within the past 2 weeks and develop symptoms, call your doctor.

[www.cdc.gov/nCoV](http://www.cdc.gov/nCoV)

CS 314705-B

Image retrieved from CDC PHIL

## CDC Tests for 2019-nCoV

The CDC has developed lab tests kits for detecting the novel coronavirus. The test is a Real Time Reverse Transcriptase Diagnostic Planal (RT-PCR) that can test both upper and lower respiratory specimens. On February 3, the CDC submitted an Emergency Use Authorization to the United States Food and Drug Administration to ensure the timely distribution of the test kits to national and international laboratories.

Currently, this kit is being distributed to qualified international and domestic public health labs to ensure timely diagnosis; U.S. Hospitals or other primary care settings will not be receiving any kits at this time.

For more information on the RT-PCR Test Kits visit the [CDC's Tests for 2019-nCoV website](#).

## Recommended Guidance for N- 95 Respirators Use in Healthcare Settings

Supplies of N95 respirators, intended to protect healthcare workers from infectious respiratory illness, can become depleted during wide-spread outbreaks of infectious respiratory illnesses. To avoid the inappropriate use of N95, the CDC has developed guidance.

These recommendations include:

- Minimizing number of individuals who need to use respiratory protection
- Use alternatives to N95 when feasible
- Implement practices allowing extended use and/or limited reuse of N95 respirators

Extended use may be implemented in situations when multiple patients are infected with the same respiratory pathogen. Limited reuse refers to doffing and donning of the same respirator when the pathogens cannot be transmitted through inanimate objects (fomites). Please visit [Recommended Guidance for Extended Use and Limited Reuse of N95 Filtering Facepiece Respirators in Healthcare Settings](#) to ensure appropriate use.

**2019 nCoV CORONAVIRUS**

**HEALTH ALERT: *Travelers from China***  
**There is an outbreak of respiratory illness in China.**

**Travelers are required to be monitored for up to 14 days after leaving China.**

Travelers should stay home and monitor their health within this 14-day period.  
A health official will contact you to give additional instructions.

**Take your temperature with a thermometer 2 times a day and watch your health.**

If you develop a fever (100.4°F/38°C or higher), cough, or have difficulty breathing:

- Call your health department for advice before seeking care.
- If you can't reach your health department, call ahead before going to a doctor's office or emergency room.
- Tell them your symptoms and that you were in China.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES USA **CDC**

For more information: [www.cdc.gov/nCoV](http://www.cdc.gov/nCoV)

CS 31 4429-D 02/03/2020

# Select Reportable Diseases in Pinellas County

Disease	Pinellas		YTD Total		Pinellas Annual Totals		
	Jan 2020	Jan 2019	Pinellas 2020	Florida 2020	2019	2018	2017
<b>A. Vaccine Preventable</b>							
Measles	0	0	0	1	1	7	0
Mumps	0	0	0	14	7	10	3
Pertussis	2	3	2	45	27	32	36
Varicella	9	7	9	96	33	67	24
<b>B. CNS Diseases &amp; Bacteremias</b>							
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	0	0	0	1	3	1	2
Meningitis (Bacterial, Cryptococcal, Mycotic)	0	0	0	13	7	9	7
Meningococcal Disease	0	0	0	5	1	1	0
<b>C. Enteric Infections</b>							
Campylobacteriosis	25	30	25	331	310	264	207
Cryptosporidiosis	4	4	4	39	64	34	40
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	1	28	4	6
<i>E. coli</i> Shiga Toxin (+)	2	0	2	57	24	15	22
Giardiasis	1	3	1	81	52	41	45
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Listeriosis	0	0	0	2	2	1	0
Salmonellosis	17	8	17	416	201	233	279
Shigellosis	1	1	1	72	22	40	26
<b>D. Viral Hepatitis</b>							
Hepatitis A	1	42	1	156	377	113	1
Hepatitis B: Pregnant Woman +HBsAg	4	0	4	34	24	14	25
Hepatitis B, Acute	2	8	2	54	72	52	51
Hepatitis C, Acute	16	4	16	152	82	40	30
<b>E. Vector Borne/ Zoonoses</b>							
Animal Rabies	0	0	0	8	2	1	3
Rabies, possible exposure	13	15	13	336	128	130	140
Chikungunya Fever	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Dengue	0	0	0	11	3	0	0
Eastern Equine Encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lyme Disease	0	0	0	14	22	14	19
Malaria	1	0	1	6	5	3	0
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zika Virus Disease	0	3	0	2	3	2	5
<b>F. Others</b>							
Chlamydia	382	351	382	n/a	4588	4422	418
Gonorrhea	122	99	122	n/a	1537	1439	1574
Hansen's Disease	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Legionellosis	5	3	5	71	43	37	28
Mercury Poisoning	0	0	0	4	1	1	1
Syphilis, Total	31	28	31	n/a	479	438	382
Syphilis, Primary and Secondary	15	9	15	n/a	213	190	160
Syphilis, Early Latent	11	14	11	n/a	191	158	128
Syphilis, Congenital	0	0	0	n/a	6	2	5
Syphilis, Late Syphilis	5	5	5	n/a	69	88	89
Tuberculosis	3	1	3	n/a	23	33	28
<i>Vibrio</i> Infections	0	0	0	17	18	6	11

\*YTD up to February 06, 2020. n/a = not available at this time

Reportable diseases include confirmed and probable cases only. All case counts are current and provisional. Data is collected from the Merlin Reportable Disease database, surveillance systems maintained at the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County, and Florida CHARTS <http://www.floridacharts.com/charts/default.aspx>. STD data in STARS is continually updated. Please note, data from the previous month takes up to an additional month or more to be correctly updated.

# Healthy Pets, Healthy People

## ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE IN PETS AND PEOPLE



We rely on antibiotics to fight some infections in people and pets.



But anytime antibiotics are used, they can contribute to the development of antibiotic resistance.



People and pets can sometimes get sick with antibiotic-resistant infections, which are harder to treat.



Make sure your pets only get antibiotics when needed, and follow your veterinarian's instructions if you need to give your pet antibiotics.



Appropriate antibiotic use in people and pets helps protect the whole family—including furry, feathered, and scaly family members—from antibiotic-resistant infections.



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

For more information, please visit:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/pets-and-antibiotic-resistance.html>

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Ron DeSantis**  
Governor

**Scott A. Rivkees, MD**  
State Surgeon General

**Vision:** To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

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## Florida Department of Health (FDOH) Zika Testing Update January 23, 2020

In November 2019, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated their guidance for health care providers caring for pregnant women with possible Zika virus exposure. **Most notably, routine serologic testing is no longer recommended for pregnant women.** Per CDC, three categories of Zika risk exist; the U.S. and its territories are considered lowest risk, followed by other areas with historical Zika virus activity and areas with a current outbreak being most at risk. There are currently no areas reporting a Zika virus outbreak.

Rationale for the guidance changes:

- Reported Zika infections in the Americas have declined thirtyfold–seventyfold.
- Dengue virus, a related flavivirus, is currently causing large outbreaks in many areas of the world, and dengue cases currently outnumber Zika cases 200:1.
- **Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing is the preferred method of diagnosis for acute Zika and dengue infections.**
- Interpretation of serologic testing is complicated by cross-reactivity between these viruses and Zika IgM antibodies can persist for months to years following infection.

**Please see page 2 for a summary of updated CDC Zika testing recommendations.**

Both Zika and dengue PCR and antibody testing are available at commercial laboratories. Individuals with insurance who meet Zika testing criteria should be tested through a commercial laboratory. Zika and dengue testing is available at the FDOH Bureau of Public Health Laboratories for symptomatic patients who are uninsured, infants with possible congenital Zika syndrome, and suspect locally acquired cases that are approved by your county health department.

Zika can also be spread through sexual transmission. CDC recommends that pregnant couples use condoms or abstain from sex for the entire pregnancy if there is a possible Zika risk. Non-pregnant couples should use condoms or abstain from sex for at least eight weeks after possible exposure for women and at least three months after possible exposure for men.

**Resources:**

Updated CDC Zika testing guidance: [www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/testing-guidance.html](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/testing-guidance.html)

Current CDC Zika risk by country: [wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information)

CDC Zika testing recommendations during an outbreak:

[www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/rr/rr6801a1.htm?s\\_cid=rr6801a1\\_w](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/rr/rr6801a1.htm?s_cid=rr6801a1_w)

CDC Zika infant testing recommendations:

[www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/test-specimens-at-time-of-birth.html](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/test-specimens-at-time-of-birth.html)

CDC dengue risk: [www.cdc.gov/dengue/areaswithrisk/around-the-world.html](http://www.cdc.gov/dengue/areaswithrisk/around-the-world.html)

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 **Accredited Health Department**  
Public Health Accreditation Board

**Updated CDC Zika Testing Recommendation Summary**

	CDC Testing Recommendations*
<b>Asymptomatic pregnant women</b> living in or with recent travel to the U.S. and its territories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zika testing is not routinely recommended</li> </ul>
<b>Asymptomatic pregnant women</b> living in or with recent travel to areas with risk of Zika outside the U.S. and its territories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zika testing is not routinely recommended</li> <li>• Zika PCR (urine and serum) may be considered up to 12 weeks after travel</li> </ul>
Symptomatic pregnant patients living in or with recent travel to areas with Zika and dengue risk or with Zika sexual exposure risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dengue PCR and IgM and Zika PCR (urine and serum) testing should be performed</li> </ul>
Pregnant women with prenatal ultrasound findings consistent with congenital Zika infection who lived in or traveled to areas with Zika risk during pregnancy, or with Zika sexual exposure risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zika PCR (urine and serum) and Zika IgM testing should be performed</li> <li>• If amniocentesis is performed for other reasons, Zika PCR (amniotic fluid) testing may be considered</li> </ul>
Infants born to mothers with PCR evidence of Zika infection during pregnancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infant Zika IgM testing should be performed</li> <li>• Zika PCR should also be performed if IgM is positive</li> </ul>
Infants who have abnormal clinical findings suggestive of congenital Zika syndrome and mother with possible Zika virus exposure during pregnancy, or with Zika sexual exposure risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zika IgM testing (serum and cerebral spinal fluid if available) should be performed</li> <li>• Zika PCR testing is recommended if Zika IgM testing is positive</li> </ul>
Symptomatic <b>non-pregnant</b> patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Zika testing recommended</li> <li>• Dengue PCR and IgM testing should be performed</li> </ul>
Asymptomatic <b>non-pregnant</b> patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Zika or dengue testing needed</li> <li>• Testing should not be performed as part of preconception screening</li> </ul>

\*Specimen type is serum unless stated otherwise