

**Maine Medical Center
Maine Transplant Program
Policies and Procedures
Zika Virus and Living Donation Policy**

Purpose

To outline the approach of the Maine Transplant Program to minimize the risk of transmitting Zika Virus (ZIKV) from living kidney donors.

Background

The most common mode of transmission is via the bite of an infected mosquito. Other modes of transmission include from mother to fetus, sexual contact, blood transfusion, and laboratory exposure. Transmission by organ or tissue transplantation has been documented outside of the USA.

The OPTN has created guidelines for donor screening. These guidelines continue to evolve as new information becomes available. Current OPTN guidelines suggest the following practices:

- In general living donors with exposure to ZIKV and compatible symptoms should be used with caution
- Living donors with symptoms could be tested for ZIKV with the assistance of state health departments

The OPTN has not created policy defining a waiting period from exposure to procurement. The FDA, however, has defined a four week deferral period for blood donation after travel to a ZIKV endemic area.

Policy

It is the policy of the Maine Transplant Program to ensure that live donor kidneys place the recipient at minimal risk of contracting Zika virus.

Procedure

- 28 days to elapse from travel to a ZIKV endemic area to living donor transplantation
- Living donors with documented ZIKV infection, need to defer transplantation for 6 months and document negative ZIKV NAT before surgery

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This policy was reviewed and approved at QAPI on 5/22/20

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