Zika Virus Disease in Babies

- As of 2015, 14% of Portage County women had been pregnant in the prior 5 years. Source: Portage County Community Health Assessment

Zika virus infection during pregnancy can cause severe health problems in babies, such as birth defects, problems with vision and hearing, seizures, and developmental delays. More than 4,800 pregnancies in the US had a lab result showing Zika from 2016-2018. From these pregnancies, 1,450 babies - about 1 in 7 (or 14%) had one or more reported health problems possibly caused by the Zika virus. Some of these problems were not apparent at birth and were identified as the babies grew older. The full range of long-term health problems caused by Zika will remain unknown until these babies mature. Identifying health problems early can help babies and children get the care they need. Throughout early childhood, healthcare providers should closely monitor the health and development of all babies born to mothers with Zika during pregnancy.

Want to learn more? Source: www.cdc.gov/zika

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

PROBLEM

Zika causes lifelong health problems:

- Children exposed to Zika virus before birth face probable long-term health conditions.
- Babies born had birth defects, such as small head size, brain damage, or eye damage.
- Without medical evaluation, health problems triggered by Zika may not be detected or treated.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Everyone can:

- Preventing Zika exposure by: ● Avoiding travel to areas at risk ● Using safe mosquito bite protection ● Blocking the spread with protected sexual relations inside risk zones. wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information
- Follow CDC recommendations for waiting to conceive when traveling: www.cdc.gov/pregnancy/zika

Resource:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1-800-CDC-INFO(232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348
www.cdc.gov