

ZIKA Virus and Fertility Treatment: IMPORTANT Information for Yorkshire Fertility Patients

Infection with Zika virus in pregnancy is suspected to cause abnormal brain development in the unborn child. There is an epidemic of Zika virus in some global areas.

Zika virus is not present in the UK. It is brought here by infected travellers from an affected tropical country- see link below. The main way to catch the infection is from a mosquito bite. The mosquitoes cannot survive the UK climate.

Zika virus has been passed on in blood and organ donations and the virus has been found in semen (i.e it could be sexually transmitted). Therefore the following advice applies to our work at Yorkshire Fertility

Female Travellers:

You should avoid pregnancy or the donation of eggs for **8 WEEKS** after returning from a Zika virus affected area.

Male Travellers:

You should avoid pregnancy or the donation of sperm for **6 MONTHS** following return from a Zika virus affected area (an extended period as Zika virus survives in semen longer than other body fluids)

Please speak to a member of staff for further advice if needed.

The knowledge about Zika is changing rapidly and up to date information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/zika-virus-zikv-clinical-and-travel-guidance>

Please inform a member of staff if you have already signed this.
Please sign both copies and return one copy to the Yorkshire Fertility staff.

We confirm that we have read and understood this information.

Female partner name & signature:

Partner name & signature:.....

Date: