OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

Journal Club

Prolonged Detection of Zika Virus RNA in Pregnant Women

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**For a list of members of the U.S. Zika Pregnancy Registry Prolonged Viremia Working Group, see Appendix 1, available online at http://links.lww.com/AOG/A851.*

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1. Describe the current standard practice at your institution or center regarding possible Zika virus exposure. Do you routinely screen for Zika exposure? If yes, describe how you screen. If no, why not?
2. The authors describe the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations for pregnant women with possible exposure to Zika virus. Review the current CDC recommendations (see http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/pregnant-woman.html). Discuss the similarities and differences between the current recommendations and those outlined by the authors.
3. Outline the primary objective(s) and identify the study design. Discuss the advantages and limitations of using this study design to address the study question.
4. The authors state, "this prospective surveillance was determined to be a nonresearch activity by the CDC and was therefore exempt from institutional review board approval." Discuss whether or not you agree with this exemption. List the criteria used by your institutional review board to determine exemption from human subjects oversight.
5. The presence of Zika virus RNA in serum for at least 21 days after entry to the United States from active Zika areas for asymptomatic women was deemed to represent prolonged detection. Discuss the advantages and limitations of this approach.
6. Summarize the main findings of the study and identify any specific characteristics suggestive of prolonged detection of Zika.
7. Based on the findings presented in this report, discuss whether or not you would change your current practice regarding Zika virus exposure.