



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND MENTAL HYGIENE**  
Mary T. Bassett, MD, MPH  
*Commissioner*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Friday, August 19, 2016**  
**(347) 396-4177**

**STATEMENT FROM THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER  
DR. MARY T. BASSETT ON UPDATED ZIKA TRAVEL GUIDANCE**

“Federal officials and the Florida Health Department today confirmed local transmission of Zika in an area of Miami Beach. They have extended the current travel advisory to include parts of Miami Beach in addition to Wynwood. Following their recommendation, the Health Department strongly advises women in New York City who are pregnant or trying to get pregnant, and their male or female sexual partner, to avoid visiting these two areas of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

We ask any pregnant New Yorker and their partner who have recently traveled to one of these two areas recently to contact their healthcare provider to determine if they should be tested.

The travel warning also remains in effect for almost all countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

As Zika continues to impact multiple parts of the United States, we also renew our call for Congress to fully fund the emergency preparedness bill that will help states combat the spread of Zika. Our response to this public health emergency will only be successful insofar as other jurisdictions are able to contain the virus and combat potential consequences that the Zika virus can have on developing babies and families.”

###

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Christopher Miller/Carolina Rodriguez, (347) 396-4177,  
PressOffice@health.nyc.gov