

## 7.3B Z-CAN END OF PROGRAM PROVIDER LETTER

### IMPORTANT Z-CAN SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Z-CAN Provider:

Thank you for your participation in the Zika Contraception Access Network (Z-CAN) during the Zika virus epidemic in Puerto Rico. With your help, we have been able to reduce the Zika virus' devastating effects by providing access to a full range of free reversible contraception, including long-acting reversible contraceptive methods, to women who chose to delay or avoid pregnancy during the Zika epidemic. To date, Z-CAN has provided contraception access to more than 21,000 women with 95 percent receiving same day access to contraceptive methods—a tremendous accomplishment on the island. The impact of Z-CAN transformed the provision of contraception services across the island, and we hope this program will contribute to contraception access sustainability in the future.

Z-CAN was rapidly established as a short-term response to the Zika public health emergency in Puerto Rico. As you know, Z-CAN was originally planned to end in June of 2017. However, we were able to extend the timeline for Z-CAN, even with Puerto Rico's government declaring an end to the Zika epidemic in June. We had hoped to extend Z-CAN through yearend 2017, provided we were able to identify additional funding, but we have not been able to do so. As a result, we are writing to let you know that the Z-CAN program will officially end its service on September 16, 2017. We will begin sharing this news publicly with partners and with women in Puerto Rico on Monday, August 21.

We are proud of what we have been able to accomplish together, and we are extremely grateful for your participation in Z-CAN. Below we are providing additional information regarding how we will closeout the program:

- 1. Last day of Z-CAN services:** The last day of Z-CAN services is September 16, 2017. Based on provider capacity, we encourage you to reschedule any Z-CAN patient appointments for prior to September 16, 2017, so that they may benefit from the program before the end date.
- 2. Product orders:** Any contraceptive product orders submitted by August 5, 2017, will be filled and delivered as usual. No new contraceptive product orders will be accepted. We encourage you to disburse your remaining contraceptive methods to Z-CAN patients until the last date of ZCAN services. Please note that you can now disburse up to twelve-month's supply of your remaining non-LARC methods (Nuvaring, oral contraceptives and patches) per patient.
- 3. Unused contraceptive product:** Any remaining contraceptive methods provided to you through Z-CAN that you have after the project ends on September 16, 2017, must be returned to the ZCAN project and cannot be used after September 16, 2017. The CDC Foundation has included a Product Return Form with this letter. Any unused contraceptive product must be accounted for on the Product Return Form and sent by October 31, 2017. This form will initiate the process to pick up the unused product from your clinic and have it returned to the Z-CAN product distribution warehouse.
- 4. Last day to submit forms for reimbursement:** All forms must be sent by Tuesday, October 31, 2017. If your clinic receives reimbursement from Z-CAN, you must submit forms for any services you provide up to September 16, 2017.

**5.** Patient forms are also used for inventory tracking purposes, so all forms must be submitted, even if a reimbursement is not due. If forms are not sent by this date, we cannot ensure payment will be made. Please note, you may be contacted by the Z-CAN program staff in Puerto Rico after October 31, 2017, to provide clarifications to forms that have already been submitted.

**6.** Removal of LARC methods post Z-CAN: According to your signed agreement with the CDC Foundation, at the point of LARC insertion (IUD or implant) you have received a bundled payment for both insertion and removal. The pre-paid removal payment is to cover LARC removals post-Z-CAN and ensure Z-CAN women who received a LARC device can have it removed at no cost. Therefore, post Z-CAN, women seeking assistance for LARC removals may come to you for that procedure at no cost to the woman. As stated in the Z-CAN Provider Manual:

“After the Z-CAN program has ended, Providers can bill insurance for the removal of LARCs placed during the Z-CAN program, but patients should not be billed directly. In the rare situation in which a patient has no insurance coverage, the patient may be required to cover reasonable expenses related to the removal. Z-CAN physicians are responsible for educating uninsured patients in Z-CAN that they may be required to cover medical expenses in the case of an adverse event related to the Z-CAN contraceptive methods.”

**7.** Communication materials: Any remaining communication materials for Z-CAN should not be used after September 16, 2017. In addition, you should no longer promote the current availability of Z-CAN services on your website, social media or advertisements.

**8.** Contact for adverse events unless notified otherwise by CDC Foundation: For any adverse events related to malfunction of the donated Z-CAN product, please email [email address] and provide a detailed message regarding the damaged product. For any adverse events needing clinical consultation, please contact [provider information].

- If you have a patient who experiences a severe adverse event related to a Z-CAN contraceptive method, please contact the medical director within 24 hours of the severe adverse event until December 31, 2017. We will provide additional information on who to contact after December 31, 2017, in the upcoming weeks. What is a serious adverse event?
  - IUD perforation
  - Hospitalization related to Z-CAN provided contraception
  - Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) among women with a Z-CAN IUD in place
  - Venous thromboembolism (deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism)
  - Ectopic pregnancy

**9.** Conference call for questions: You may have questions, and we want to ensure that these are answered. Please save the date for an informational conference call on August 25, 2017, at 1pm EST. On this call, we will go over all important final dates (product returns, turning in forms, etc.) and other important information. You will receive an email with the call-in information.

We will also share information about this news on the Ante La Duda Pregunta website ([www.anteladudapregunta.org](http://www.anteladudapregunta.org)) for women who have used or are interested in using the Z-CAN program. This information will be posted on Monday, August 21, 2017.

We are proud of the work that has been achieved through Z-CAN, and these accomplishments would not have been possible without you. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach us via email or telephone.

Sincerely,

**XXXXXXX**

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CDC Foundation

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CDC Foundation

*Enclosure:*

*Product Return Order*