



<b>PERTUSSIS</b>	
<b>Laboratory Submission Information Sheet</b>	
Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC:	Yes: Pertussis is a reportable disease. Report suspect cases to MeCDC at 1-800-821-5821
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen:	N/A
Required Information:	Information on requisition must include: suspected organism, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, submitter name and contact information. Specimen must be labeled with patient name. <b>IMPORTANT:</b> Patient name written on requisition and patient name on specimen itself must match. Requisition form available at: <a href="http://mainegov-images.informe.org/dhhs/etl/micro/clinical_requisition.pdf">http://mainegov-images.informe.org/dhhs/etl/micro/clinical_requisition.pdf</a>
Specimen Requirements:	Nasopharyngeal swabs - Collect specimen in a leak-proof container soon after onset of illness and preferably before start of treatment.
Collection Instructions:	Refer to the instruction sheet in the pertussis collection kit. Available Online at: <a href="http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/etl/micro/download_forms.htm">http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/etl/micro/download_forms.htm</a> PCR and Culture is recommended for greatest overall sensitivity and specificity. PCR Only kits are also available. <b>Do not use wooden/calcium alginate swabs. ONLY Synthetic-tipped (Polyester, Dacron, Rayon) swabs should be used.</b>
Specimen Handling and Transport:	For shipping purposes, clinical specimens are category B. <b>PCR/Culture:</b> Return inoculated Regan-Lowe transport slant and dry tube with swab as well as completed paperwork in the mailing/shipping containers provided. The use of a same day courier or overnight transport is recommended to optimize the isolation of Bordetella pertussis. The use of cold packs may maintain the viability of the organisms and is recommended if transit time is anticipated to be greater than 24 hours. Note: If specimens are collected late in the day or on the weekend, refrigerate kit a 40°F /4°C until morning of the next working day. <u>Do not store at room temperature.</u> <b>PCR Only:</b> Return dry tube with swab and completed paperwork in the mailing/shipping containers provided. Refrigeration is not required for PCR only specimens.
Turn Around Time:	PCR results are generally available within 24 hours after arrival. Culture results are generally available within 7 days after arrival.
<i>MeCDC Epidemiologists only</i>	Contact HETL for outbreak kits @ 287-1716
Unacceptable Conditions:	Specimens received without a form and clinical details, with insufficient material to analyze, collected with wooden shaft or calcium alginate swabs. Unlabeled, poorly labeled specimens or leaking containers will not be tested.
Results Include(PCR):	Evidence of B. pertussis; culture to follow (if PCR and Culture ordered) No evidence of B.pertussis; culture to follow(if PCR and Culture ordered)
Results Include(Culture):	B. pertussis found; B. pertussis not found
Results:	All results will be reported only to <b>submitter</b> as stated on requisition via mail or fax.
Laboratory Testing Fee:	With prior authorization from MeCDC, specimens submitted during a possible outbreak will be tested at no cost to the submitter, or patient. PCR: \$40.00 Culture: \$20.00 PCR&Culture: \$60.00
Applicable CPT Codes:	83891(nucleic acid extraction) 83902 (amplification) 8726 (culture)
Additional Information:	For Pertussis specific questions contact Maine HETL <b>Bacteriology at 207-287-1704</b>