



Maine Center for Disease
Control and Prevention
An Office of the
Department of Health and Human Services

Paul R. LePage, Governor

Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner

Department of Health and Human Services
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
286 Water Street
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Tel. (207) 287-8016
Fax (207) 287-9058; TTY (800) 606-0215

**NEISSERIA MENINGITIDIS
Specimens for Culture and/or Isolates
Laboratory Submission Information Sheet**

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC:	Neisseria meningitidis is a Notifiable Condition.
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen:	Yes: Isolates must be submitted to HETL for serotyping
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. IMPORTANT: ALL SPECIMENS MUST BE LABELED WITH PATIENT NAME AND BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN HETL REQUISITION Requisition form available at: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/health-and-environmental-testing/micro/documents/clinical-test-requisition-front.pdf
Specimen Requirements:	<u>Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF):</u> Submit a minimum of 0.5 ml (1.0 ml preferred) in a leak-proof container soon after onset of illness. Avoid contamination of specimen with blood. <u>Blood, synovial fluid:</u> Collect body fluid in a leak-proof container soon after onset of illness and preferably before start of treatment. <u>Isolates:</u> Clinical isolates must be submitted to HETL for confirmation and serotyping. Isolates should be sent in appropriate biological growth media, preferably slant.
Collection Instructions:	DO NOT DILUTE CSF: Do not use viral or other transport media. Submit specimen in a standard, sterile specimen container.
Specimen Handling and Transport:	Specimens should be shipped with cold packs if they are expected to arrive at HETL within 48 hours, Preferably, following collection, specimens should be stored at refrigerated temp and be transported cold immediately to HETL for testing. For shipping purposes, clinical specimens are category B
Turn Around Time:	Results are expected within 24 hours after arrival
<i>MeCDC Epidemiologists only</i>	<i>Contact HETL for outbreak kits @ 287-1716</i>
Unacceptable Conditions:	Specimens or isolates received without a requisition form and clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze. Specimens in poorly labeled or leaking containers will not be tested.
Results Include:	Neisseria meningitidis, group "... " isolated No Neisseria meningitidis found
Results:	All results will be reported only to submitter 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. Culture: \$20.00
Applicable CPT Codes:	(for clinical specimens only) Culture: 87077, 87081
Additional Information:	For Neisseria specific questions contact HETL - Bacti at 207-287-1704