



Maine Center for Disease
Control and Prevention

An Office of the
Department of Health and Human Services

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PERTUSSIS		Rev 10/7/13
Laboratory Submission Information Sheet		
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. IMPORTANT: Patient name written on requisition and patient name on specimen itself must match. Requisition form available at: http://mainegov-images.informe.org/dhhs/etl/micro/clinical_requisition.pdf	
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: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/etl/micro/download_forms.htm PCR is recommended for greatest overall sensitivity and specificity. Culture is only available at request of Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Do not use wooden/ calcium alginate swabs. ONLY Synthetic-tipped (Polyester, Dacron, Rayon) swabs should be used.	
Specimen Handling and Transport:	For shipping purposes, PCR Only: Return dry tube with swab and completed paperwork in the mailing/ shipping containers provided. Refrigeration is not required for PCR only specimens. PCR/Culture: 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 at 2 - 8°C until morning of the next working day. <u>Do not store at room temperature.</u>	
Turn Around Time:	PCR results are generally available within 24 hours after arrival. Culture results are generally available within 7 days after arrival.	
MeCDC Epidemiologists only	Contact HETL for outbreak kits @ 287-1716. Culture is only available upon request from epidemiologist.	
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):	Bordetella pertussis DNA Detected; Bordetella spp DNA NOT Detected; Equivocal for Bordetella pertussis DNA; Bordetella parapertussis DNA DETECTED; Bordetella holmesii DNA DETECTED; Inconclusive for Bordetella spp DNA	
Results Include(Culture):	Bordetella pertussis isolated; Bordetella parapertussis isolated; Bordetella bronchiseptica isolated; Bordetella pertussis NOT isolated; B pertussis and B parapertussis NOT isolated;	
Results:	All results will be reported only to submitter as stated on requisition via mail or fax.	
Applicable CPT Codes:	87801 (PCR) 87077 (culture)	
Additional Information:	For Pertussis specific questions contact Maine HETL Bacteriology at 207-287-1704	