



SHIGELLA	
Laboratory Submission Information Sheet	
Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC:	Yes: Shigellosis is a Notifiable Condition. If you have not already done so, please report suspect or confirmed cases to the Maine CDC via the disease reporting line: 1-800-821-5821 (24hrs/day 7 days/week.)
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen:	Yes: suspect Shigella specimens or clinical isolates must be submitted to the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL)
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: PDF
Specimen Requirements:	Stool: Collect feces in a leak-proof container soon after onset of illness and preferably before start of treatment. Isolates: Clinical isolates must be submitted to HETL for confirmation and serotyping.
Collection Instructions:	Stool can be submitted in Cary Blair liquid media in a leak-proof container.
Specimen Handling and Transport:	Specimens in Cary-Blair media should arrive at the laboratory within 48 hours of collection. Specimens not in Cary Blair media must be transported to lab within 2 hours. Isolates should be sent on slants or culettes. Note: Shigella dysenteriae is classified as a Category A organism and cannot be sent through the United State Postal Service. The remaining species are Category B and may be mailed.
Turn Around Time:	Clinical isolates have a 18-36 hour turn-around-time. Samples requiring culture and isolation may extend TAT by 72 hours.
<i>MeCDC Epidemiologists only</i>	<i>TAT for PFGE Shigella is 5-6 business days</i>
Unacceptable Conditions:	Avoid contamination with urine, soap etc. Do not refrigerate. Raw stools not received within 2 hours of collection
Results Include:	Report may include species isolation, identification and serotyping.
Results:	All results will be reported only to submitter as stated on requisition via mail or fax.
Laboratory Testing Fee:	Shigella is a Notifiable Condition which requires laboratory submission and the fee is waived
Applicable CPT Codes:	n/a, no charge
Additional Information:	For Shigella specific questions contact Maine HETL Bacteriology at 207-287-1704