

Department of Health and Human Services Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory 221 State Street # 12 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333-0012

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West Nile Virus(WNV), Saint Louis Encephelitis Virus(SLE) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis(EEE) Virus  Laboratory Submission Information Sheet	
Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC:	Suspect cases of WNV, SLE or EEE are not required to be reported to MeCDC, however notification is appreciated. <i>Laboratory confirmed cases</i> of WNV, SLE or EEE must be reported immediately to MeCDC at 1-800-821-5821
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen:	Submission of samples of suspect cases of WNV,SLE or EEE is recommended.
Required Information: 1. HETL Requisition Form	Requisition form: PDF
Human Arbovirus Specimen     Submission Form	Form - PDF
Laboratory Testing Available at HETL	Microsphere Immunoassay (MIA) for Human IgM specific for WNV,SLE or EEE viruses.
Related Tests Available at HETL for Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF)	Enterovirus PCR; Herpes Simplex Virus 1/2 PCR; Varicella-Zoster Virus PCR, Neisseiria meningitidis Please contact HETL Virology Section at 207-287-2727 for information regarding the above tests. Turnaround times for these tests are substantially less than that for MIA.
Specimen Requirements:	Spinal fluid (CSF): Volume - at least 1.0 ml for MIA 2.0ml is recommended if additional test(s) are requested(see above: Related Tests Available for CSF) Note: all CSF samples should have accompanying serum samples if possible Serum: Volume-Submit at least 1.0ml of acute serum. A convalescent and acute serum is required for all MIA test requests with symptom onset date between June 1st and November 30th
Collection Instructions:	Spinal Fluid: Collect acute specimens 2 –10 days after onset of symptoms.  Sample should be submitted in a sterile, screw cap container and clearly marked with patient's name, date of collection and other identifiers such as DOB.  Serum: Collect acute specimen immediately. Samples should be submitted in a sterile SST and clearly marked with patient's name, date of collection and other identifiers such as DOB.  SPECIAL NOTE: a negative result on acute specimens collected within the first 10 days of illness is not sufficient to rule out infection. If the patient is still symptomatic a convalescent serum sample should be collected.
Specimen Handling and Transport:	<u>CSF/Serum</u> Keep specimens cold at refrigerated temperatures(4C). Specimens should be sent by courier if possible. <i>Freezing/mailing specimens is not recommended.</i> Convalescent serum, if requested, should be collected 2-3 weeks following collection of acute specimen.
Turn Around Time:	Normally, 5-7 business days upon specimen receipt at HETL.
Unacceptable Conditions:	Specimens received without a Requisition AND Human Arbovirus Specimen Submission Form, with insufficient material to analyze, unlabeled specimens or leaking containers will not be tested.
Results Include:	IgM Multiplex Assay: WNV (West Nile Virus) "Negative" or "Positive"; EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalitis) virus "Negative or "Positive"; SLE (Saint Louis Encephalitis) virus "Negative" or "Positive". Comments may include: "Sent to CDC for Confirmation" Note: a separate report will be generated for CSF and Serum when submitted from the same patient.
Laboratory Testing Fee:	N/A: TESTING FEES ARE WAIVED FOR MIA Testing for WNV, SLE and EEE
Applicable CPT Codes:	N/A: TESTING FEES ARE WAIVED FOR MIA Testing for WNV, SLE and EEE
Additional Information:	Contact HETL Virology at 207-287-1722 FOR additional information