Important Announcement Regarding Enterovirus-D68 (EV-D68)

1. HETL can perform RT-PCR screening for Enterovirus on respiratory specimens. The assay can detect the presence of enterovirus RNA, including EV-D68, but cannot differentiate between enterovirus subtypes. A detected result indicates a recent infection. A NOT detected result does not rule out enterovirus. All results should be used in conjunction with clinical and epidemiological information.

2. Turn-around time for screening is generally 24 – 48 hours from time of receipt

3. Results will be reported ONLY to the submitter identified on the requisition

4. Check *Enterovirus PCR* on the HETL requisition and write in under Additional Information: **Entero PCR on Respiratory Specimen**

5. At this time a cost of $150.00 will be incurred for screening; CPT code is 87498

6. Specimens collected for influenza are acceptable for Enterovirus PCR

7. Those specimens include nasopharyngeal swabs, nasal washes, and throat swabs

8. Swabs should be placed in viral transport media

9. All specimens must be stored cold but not frozen and sent to HETL on ice packs

10. Positives may be sent to federal CDC for subtyping

11. No cost will be incurred for subtyping if specimen is sent to CDC

12. If specimen is sent to CDC for subtyping, a DASH form 50.34 AND EV-D68 Patient Summary form will be required prior to shipment.

13. Specimens sent to CDC for subtyping may take 4 weeks to obtain results

Links below to HETL requisition, DASH form and Patient Summary

(Ctrl + Click to follow the links)

[HETL Clinical Requisition](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/health-and-environmental-testing/micro/documents/clinical-test-requisition-front.pdf)

[CDC DASH form 50.34](http://www.cdc.gov/laboratory/specimen-submission/pdf/form-50-34.pdf)

[EV-D68 Patient Summary Form](http://www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/downloads/EV68-PatientSummaryForm.pdf)

[For more information regarding Enterovirus-D68, please visit the federal CDC website](http://www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/about/EV-D68.html)