



Department of Health and Human Services
 Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Detection of Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli (STEC) by Culture, Real Time PCR and Molecular Serotyping

Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes: Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli (STEC) 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YES
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on requisition must include: suspected organism if known or required, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, or isolate, submitter name and contact information. • Important: all specimens must be labeled with patient name and be accompanied by a HETL requisition.
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stool samples in Cary-Blair or MacConkey broth • Raw stool • Isolates
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stool: If possible, collect before start of treatment. Specimen may be raw stool, or stool in Cary-Blair or MacConkey broth. Samples in Cary-Blair should arrive at the laboratory within 48 hours of collection. Raw stool samples must be transported to lab within 2 hours of collection. Isolates should be sent on appropriate biological growth media. Ship samples at ambient temperature, raw stool must be shipped cold
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RT-PCR results are generally available within 18-36 hrs of specimen receipt. • Molecular serotyping for STEC is 10 business days • Samples requiring culture and isolation may extend turn-around-time by 72 hours.
Unacceptable Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specimens received without a form and clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze. • Specimens in poorly labeled/unlabeled or leaking containers. • Raw specimens not refrigerated or frozen, or not received in the lab within 2 hours of collection
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shiga toxin NOT detected, Shiga toxin STX 1 and/or STX2 detected, Inconclusive for Shiga toxin • STEC molecular serotyping results • Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition.
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fee Waived.
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 87798 (PCR) • 87046 (culture-clinical specimens)
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bacteriology at 207-287-1704 • Virology, Respiratory, Arbovirus, Serology, and STI at 207-287-1722 • Molecular Biology, Sequencing, and Foodborne at 207-287-5769 • Mycobacterium and Rabies at 207-287-1706