



Department of  
Health and Human Services  
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory  
221 State Street  
# 12 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0012  
Tel: (207) 287-2727; Fax: (207) 287-6832  
TTY: 1-800-606-0215

**Detection of Bordetella Species by Real Time RT PCR**  
**Laboratory Submission Information Sheet**

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes: Pertussis 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.)</li></ul>
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No</li></ul>
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information on requisition must include: suspected organism if known or required, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, submitter name and contact information.</li><li>• <b>Important: all specimens must be labeled with patient name and be accompanied by a HETL requisition.</b></li></ul>
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nasopharyngeal swabs</li></ul>
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collect specimen soon after onset of illness and preferably before start of treatment.</li><li>• ONLY Synthetic-tipped (Polyester, Dacron, Rayon) swabs should be used.</li><li>• Swab should be shipped dry, do NOT submerge in liquid or solid media</li><li>• Ship samples at ambient temperature</li></ul>
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Results are generally available within 24 hrs of specimen receipt.</li></ul>
Unacceptable Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specimens received without a form and clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze.</li><li>• Specimens in poorly labeled/unlabeled or leaking containers</li><li>• Specimens collected with wooden shaft or calcium alginate swabs</li><li>• Specimens submerged in liquid or solid media</li></ul>
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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</li><li>• Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition</li></ul>
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$110 (Fee waived if testing/identification is part of an outbreak investigation by Maine CDC)</li></ul>
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 87798 (PCR)</li></ul>
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bacteriology at 207-287-1704</li><li>• Virology, Respiratory, Arbovirus, Serology, and STI at 207-287-1722</li><li>• Molecular Biology, Sequencing, and Foodborne at 207-287-5769</li><li>• Mycobacterium and Rabies at 207-287-1706</li></ul>



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#### Instructions for collecting nasopharyngeal specimens for Bordetella species PCR

1. Use the Copan® Flocked Swab either Pediatric or Adult size included in the kit. It is not necessary to bend the swab prior to collection.
2. Insert swab into anterior nares and gently swab posterior nasopharynx. More information available at <http://copanusa.com/videos/education/index>.
3. Break swab at molded breaking point and drop inside the dry tube. Screw cap on tightly. Place dry tube with swab into inner container and return to the State Lab.
4. PCR kits are available and can be stored indefinitely at room temperature.
5. If no kit is available, any metal-shafted, Dacron, Nasopharyngeal swab and an appropriately sized screw cap tube can be used.
6. Return dry tube with swab and completed paperwork in the mailing/shipping containers provided. Refrigeration is not required.