



Department of Health and Human Services
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Detection of Carbapenem Resistant Genes by Real Time PCR

Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes: 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.). CRE is also known as carbapenem resistant organism, carbapenemase producing organism.
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Isolate submission is required for all carbapenemase-producing carbapenem-resistant organisms. If phenotypic or resistance mechanism test results are not available for a carbapenem-resistant organism, then isolate submission of the carbapenem-resistant organism is required to determine carbapenemase-producing status.
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on requisition must include: suspected organism, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, 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">• Submit a fresh Bacterial isolate on slant/plate or broth• Submit all antibiotic susceptibility data.
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DO NOT submit clinical material• Isolates should be sent on appropriate biological growth media.• For Shipping, Handling, and Transport: specimens are category B
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Results are generally available within 3 business days of specimen receipt
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.• Mixed cultures.
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gene families will be reported as either detected or not detected; <i>NDM, KPC, VIM, IMP, OXA</i>.• Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition.
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$110 (Fee waived if testing/identification is part of an outbreak investigation by Maine CDC)
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 87798 (PCR)
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