



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 Shigella by Culture Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes: Shigella 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, 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: Collect feces in a leak-proof container soon after onset of illness and preferably before start of treatment.• Isolates: Clinical isolates must be submitted to HETL for confirmation and serotyping and sent on appropriate biological growth media, preferably slant or broth.
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stool samples in Cary-Blair media should arrive at the laboratory within 48 hours of collection.• Raw stool samples must be transported to lab within 2 hours.• Isolates should be sent on appropriate biological growth media, preferably slant or broth.• Shigella dysenteriae is classified as a Category A
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clinical isolates have a 18-36 hour turn-around-time.• Samples requiring culture and isolation may extend turn-around-time by 72 hours.• PFGE for Shigella is 5-6 business days
Unacceptable Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specimens received without a form and clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze.• Avoid contamination with urine, soap etc. Do not refrigerate. Raw stools not received within 2 hours of collection.
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report may include species isolation, identification, serotyping.• All results will be reported only to submitter as stated on requisition via mail or fax.
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$0
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bacteriology at 207-287-1704, Virology, Respiratory, Arbovirus, and Serology at 207-287-1722• Molecular Biology, Sequencing, and Foodborne at 207-287-5769• Mycobacterium and Rabies at 207-287-1706• CT/GC at 207-287-6244