



Department of Health and Human Services
 Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Detection of Syphilis by Three Methods Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes: Syphilis 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"> • NO, However, submission of samples of suspect cases is recommended.
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"> • Cerebral Spinal Fluid for VDRL (CSF - 0.5ml minimum) or serum for RPR screen/quantitation and TPPA confirmation (at least 0.5mL). Samples should be kept at 4°C for short term storage and may be frozen (-20°C) for long term storage. Collect specimen in a sterile leak proof container. Avoid contamination of specimen with blood.
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spinal Fluid: Collect specimen 2–10 days after onset of symptoms in sterile container. • Serum: Collect specimen 3–10 days after onset of symptoms, in a sterile serum separator tube
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results should be expected within 24-48hrs from 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. • Rejection Criteria: CSF or serum in specimen collection tube that contains anticoagulant; specimen not refrigerated or not frozen; incorrect specimen type
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RPR - Reactive or Non-reactive; RPR Quantitation - titer provided; TPPA - Reactive or Non-reactive. • CSF - Reactive or Non-reactive. If reactive, a titer is provided. • 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"> • \$15 - RPR syphilis screen/quantitation • \$20 - TPPA confirmation • \$15 - VDRL csf screen
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RPR serum screen - 86592 • TPPA serum confirmation - 86592 • VDRL csf screen - 86592
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