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## Gastrointestinal Illness Outbreak *Laboratory Submission Information Sheet*

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| Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes: increased incidence of disease, such as gastrointestinal illness is a Notifiable Condition. If you have not already done so, please report any suspect outbreak 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, however, submission is necessary to determine etiology of illness. Please coordinate submission of specimens with Maine CDC Epidemiologist according to clinical information and suspected etiology.</li></ul>   |
| Required Information                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information on requisition must include: Outbreak number, 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>• Bacterial testing: Stool samples in Cary-Blair or raw stool</li><li>• Norovirus: Raw stool or swabs (rectal or stool). Swabs should be Polyester, Dacron, or Rayon with a plastic shaft</li></ul>  |
| Collection Instructions                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bacterial testing: If possible, collect before start of treatment. 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. Norovirus: Submit stool with or without viral transport media. Swabs should be submitted in viral transport media. Ship samples at ambient temperature.</li></ul> |
| Turn Around Time                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Results are generally available within 24-48 hrs of specimen receipt.</li><li>• Samples requiring culture and isolation may extend TAT by 72 hours.</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>• Raw specimens not received in the lab within 2 hrs of collection, this pertains to bacterial testing only</li><li>• Calcium alginate swabs, or swabs with wooden shafts</li></ul>                                  |
| Results                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Report may include species isolation, identification, serotyping, and additional disease specific results</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>• \$160 (fee waived if testing is requested by MeCDC)</li></ul>  |
| Applicable CPT Codes                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 87046 (culture-clinical specimens)</li><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>   |