



Department of Health and Human Services
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Measles (Rubeola) Virus Detection by Real Time RT PCR

Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes. Measles 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.• Collect samples for PCR within 1-3 days of rash onset.
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on requisition must include: test request, 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">• PCR: Preferred specimen is an oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal swab.• All specimens should be stored and shipped cold (2 - 8°C)
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PCR: Swab nasopharynx and/or oropharynx using ONLY synthetic-tipped swabs (Polyester, Rayon, and Dacron) to collect epithelial cells. Swabs should be submitted in viral transport media.
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PCR results are generally available within 24 hours after arrival.
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 or leaking containers will not be tested.• Do not use wooden shaft or calcium alginate swabs• Do not freeze specimens for PCR testing
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PCR: Measles RNA Not Detected; Measles RNA Detected• 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">• PCR \$110.00• 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, 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