



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE: Measles Collection

Date: 04/25/2024	Supersedes: NA
Distributed By: Lab	Reviewed:

Purpose:

Measles is a highly contagious illness requiring timely and appropriate testing for confirmation. Refer to the Infection Prevention Measles Control Plan for additional information on patient handling.

Procedure:

1. If a patient presents to the lab suspected of Measles, immediately isolate the patient, provide them a mask and contact LOD/Public Health immediately. Put on a N95 mask/respirator and document any staff or patients who may have been exposed.
2. All suspected measles patients must be evaluated by a provider prior to any lab testing request.
 - a. Provider/designee should immediately notifying CADE (515-242-5935 business hours or 515-323-4360 after hours)
 - b. Testing required shall be determined by the state epidemiologist in conjunction with the provider assessment.
3. The request form for testing at the State Hygienic Lab should be completed by the state epidemiologist and delivered or faxed to the lab to accompany the sample.
 - a. Review and complete any missing patient information and assure that it is marked to bill to Public Health.
 - b. No lab order will be placed in the EHR and the lab will NOT receive results.
4. Staff are required to wear **airborne PPE** if instructed to collect specimens for measles testing.
5. The following samples may be requested by the state epidemiologist.
 - a. Throat swab for Measles PCR testing. The best sample is collected on the first day of the rash through 5 days following the rash. Swab tonsillar areas and posterior nasopharynx. Use a tongue depressor to prevent contamination of the swab with saliva. Place the swab in Viral transport media, label and refrigerate.
 - b. Urine is usually requested if the rash has been present for more than 5 days. Collect 10-40 ml in a sterile container. Void directly into the container, collecting from the first part of the urine stream if possible. First morning specimens are ideal, but any urine collection is adequate. Label & Refrigerate.
 - c. Blood sample(s) using standard venipuncture technique for a Measles (Rubeola) IgM or IgG Antibody. Testing at the Hygienic Lab requires 1 ml serum refrigerated.
6. Lab will coordinate courier service.
 - a. In emergent cases the state may arrange for a courier to pick up immediately.
 - b. If the state did not make arrangements and it is an emergent case, call the State Hygienic Lab at 319-335-4500 to arrange pick up.
 - c. Non-emergency cases will be scheduled for pickup and delivered using our state courier system.