



Department of
Health and Human Services
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Clinical Viral Metagenomics Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only if the virus(es) detected 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
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, DOB or other unique identifier, and be accompanied by a HETL requisition.
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A minimum of 500uL CSF for neurological specimens. Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab AND oropharyngeal (OP) swab for respiratory specimens. Use frozen cold packs to transport samples to the lab.
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For CSF: Disinfect patient skin prior to collection. Minimize the presence of blood.• For respiratory: Use Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab AND oropharyngeal (OP) flocked swabs only and submit both swabs in one container of 2-3ml of viral transport media. Do not use wooden shaft or calcium alginate swabs
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Results are generally available within 5-10 business days of specimen receipt
Rejection Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specimens received without a requisition form, clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze. Specimens in poorly labeled, unlabeled, or leaking containers. Specimens transported at incorrect temperature. CSF grossly contaminated with blood
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presence or Absence of genomic viral nucleic acid as listed by taxonomy• 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">• Fee Waived
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 81479 (whole genome sequencing)
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bacteriology at 207-287-1704• Virology and Serology at 207-287-1722• Molecular Biology, Sequencing, and Foodborne at 207-287-5769• Mycobacterium and Rabies at 207-287-1706