



Department of Health and Human Services
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Norovirus Detection by Real-Time RT-PCR Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes: 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 (24 hours/day 7 days/week)
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No• Specimen submission is recommended in outbreak situations.• Consider submitting specimens from 3-5 patients.• No more than 5 samples should be submitted unless instructed to do so.
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on requisition must include: test requested, 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">• Stool should be submitted in a leak-proof container, with or without viral transport media• ONLY Synthetic-tipped (Polyester, Dacron, Rayon) swabs with plastic shafts should be used.• Vomitus may be submitted when stool is not available.
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collect specimen soon after onset of illness and preferably before start of treatment.• Specimens should be submitted in viral transport media or other appropriate transport media.• Store specimens at 2-8°C until ready for shipping. Specimens should be submitted to lab as soon as possible. Use frozen cold packs to transport samples to the lab.
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Results are generally available within 1 - 3 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• Specimens in poorly labeled or leaking containers• Use of wooden shaft or calcium alginate swabs.• Do not freeze
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Norovirus genogroup I RNA Detected, Norovirus genogroup I RNA Not Detected, or Inconclusive• Norovirus genogroup II RNA Detected, Norovirus genogroup II RNA Not Detected, or Inconclusive• Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$110• Fee may be waived if testing/identification is part of an outbreak investigation by Maine CDC
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 87798
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bacteriology at 207-287-1704• Virology, Respiratory, Arbovirus, Serology, and STI at 207-287-1722• Molecular Biology, Sequencing, and Foodborne at 207-287-5769• Mycobacterium and Rabies at 207-287-1706