



Department of Health and Human Services
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli (STEC) Detection by Culture, Real Time PCR and Molecular Serotyping *Laboratory Submission Information Sheet*

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes: Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli (STEC) 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
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on requisition must include: suspected organism if known or required, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, or isolate, 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">• Stool samples in Cary-Blair or MacConkey broth• Raw stool• Isolates
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stool: If possible, collect before start of treatment. Specimen may be raw stool, or stool in Cary-Blair or MacConkey broth. 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. Isolates should be sent on appropriate biological growth media. Ship samples at ambient temperature, raw stool must be shipped cold
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RT-PCR results are generally available within 24-36 hrs of specimen receipt.• Molecular serotyping for STEC is 10 business days• Samples requiring culture and isolation may extend turn-around-time by 72 hours.
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. Raw specimens not refrigerated, or not received in the lab within 2 hours of collection. Stool in Cary Blair over 48 hours old may be tested, but with a disclaimer.
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shiga toxin NOT detected, Shiga toxin STX 1 and/or STX2 detected, Inconclusive for Shiga toxin• STEC molecular serotyping results• Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition.
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fee Waived.
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 87798 (PCR)• 87046 (culture-clinical specimens)
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