

## Measles PCR

<b>Test Description</b>	Molecular assay for the detection of measles virus RNA in throat and nasopharyngeal specimens
<b>Test Use</b>	Test of choice for detection of measles infection
<b>Test Department</b>	Virology Phone: (860) 920-6662, FAX (860) 920-6661
<b>Methodology</b>	Real-time Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (rRT-PCR)
<b>Availability</b>	Test is referred to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for testing.
<b>Specimen Requirements</b>	Combined throat/nasopharyngeal swabs in virus transport media (VTM). Place both swabs into the same VTM tube. Use only polyester or Dacron-tipped swabs with plastic or aluminum shafts. Do NOT use calcium alginate or cotton tipped swabs, or wood shafts.
<b>Collection Kit/Container</b>	Category B shipping box with cold pack To request collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
<b>Collection Instructions</b>	Standard aseptic specimen collection procedures should be followed. Refrigerate VTM immediately after collection.
<b>Specimen Handling &amp; Transport</b>	Store specimen at 2-8° C. Transport with an ice pack coolant. Specimens must be received within 48 hours of collection.
<b>Unacceptable Conditions</b>	Unlabeled specimens Specimens that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit Specimens that have been improperly collected or stored
<b>Requisition Form</b>	Clinical test requisition (select <b>Measles PCR</b> )
<b>Required Information</b>	Name and address of submitter (and/or Horizon profile #) Patient name or identifier, date of birth Specimen type or source of collection, date collected, test requested Please ensure patient name on the requisition matches that on the specimen.
<b>Limitations</b>	Testing requires prior approval of Epidemiology and Emerging Infections, (860) 509-7994. A negative test does not rule out infection with measles virus.
<b>Additional Comments</b>	Specimen is referred to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, GA for testing.

Revision: 7/6/15