Florida HEALTH
Bureau of Public Health Laboratories

Test Menu

TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
Test Name	Rubella virus, PCR
Other Name (s)	German Measles, Three – Day Measles
Analyte(s)	rubella
Test Code	1724
Lab location	Jacksonville location
Department	Virology
Prior Authorization	Requires prior approval from Regional Epidemiology and notification to the testing lab. Contact local County Health Department to start the process for approval.
Required Forms	Test Requisition Form, DH1847. Medical History needed (i.e., onset date, collection date, travel history, and symptoms).
Specimen Sources	Nasopharyngeal or throat swabs; nasopharyngeal aspirates; urine
Supplemental Information- Special Specimen Preparation	N/A
Minimum Volume	1mL
Storage Conditions	Refrigerate specimens at 2-8°C or frozen at ≤-20°C.
Collection Media	Dacron swab in viral transport media (VTM) or universal transport media (UTM), Sterile container
Specimen Labeling	-Specimen must be labeled with at least two unique patient identifiers, Ex: Name and DOB. -The collection date and time if submitting multiple specimens. **-Information on the specimen must match the requisition.**
Packaging and Shipping Instructions and Handling	Specimens must be shipped between (2-8°C) or frozen (≤-20°C) on dry ice. Separate multiple specimens into different bags (preferred).
Test Methodology	real-time reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) assay.
Turnaround Time	1 - 5 days
Result Indicator	rubella virus detected or no virus detected
Unsatisfactory Specimen	Swabs with calcium alginate or cotton tips or with wooden shafts. Unlabeled or mislabeled specimens, insufficient quantity for testing, incorrect collection tube/transport media, grossly contaminated specimen, disparity between ID on sample and paperwork, improper collection, storage or transport of specimen, no test requested, test requested is not performed. If required, the absence of patient history. If required, the lack of patient history that is compatible with test requested. Test order cancelled by provider, broken, or leaked in transit, etc.
Interferences and Limitations	A negative result should not be used to rule out rubella infection as many variables can affect specimen quality. The real-time assay has not been cleared or approved by the FDA. The performance characteristics have been established by Viral Vaccine Preventable Diseases Branch (VVPDB). Swabs with calcium alginate or cotton tips or with wooden shafts, can result in inactivation of some viruses and inhibit some molecular assays
Additional Information & Notes	Requires prior approval from CHD and notification to the testing lab.
Reference Range	rubella virus detected or no virus detected
Reference Lab	CDC if needed
Reflex testing	N/A