

Review the Test Menu prior to submission, www.FloridaPublicHealthLab.com.

Authorization

- Contact your local County Health Department prior to collecting any specimens from suspected measles cases. **Testing requires prior approval from epidemiology before specimen submission.**

Notify Lab:

- Notify BPHL.JacksonvilleVirology@flhealth.gov, BPHL.TampaVirology@flhealth.gov, or BPHL.MiamiVirology@flhealth.gov after you obtain approval that you are sending a specimen(s) for testing. Provide the tracking number if being shipped or estimated time of arrival for specimens that are couriered.
- **Couriered samples must be transported in a cooler with frozen ice packs to arrive at the laboratory between 2-8°C. Laboratory staff will check the temperature of the cooler upon arrival before accepting specimens.**
- ***Please see page 2 for more shipping information.***

Specimen Selection:

- Specimens for real-time RT-PCR (rRT-PCR) are **preferred** and should be collected as soon as possible after rash onset, up to 3 days following onset are preferred. However, please note that the virus has been detected as late as 10-14 days after rash onset.

Test Order:

- A completed DH1847 is required in order to complete testing, including who authorized the testing, dates of MMR vaccination, onset date, collection date, travel history and symptoms.
- Please do not use electronic ordering for measles testing requests.

Specimen Collection:

- Specimen collection should be performed following standard precautions. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) at all times while collecting and handling specimens

**Measles rRT-PCR
(Test Code: 1755)**

Throat or NP (nasopharyngeal) swabs are **PREFERRED**. Swabs must be in 1-3 mL of viral transport medium (VTM). Use a Dacron swab or a flocked polyester fiber swab, **NOT** cotton swabs.

Urine is also acceptable (5-10 mL) in a sterile leak proof tube. Please do not submit urine in urine collection cups as these tend to leak during transport. Urine should be transferred to a sterile tube(s), **no media and additives**, with a secure closure to prevent leakage in transport.

Collect specimens as soon as possible after rash, preferably within 3 days following onset of rash.

- Place each tube in a separate zip-seal bag with absorbent material in each bag.
- Store specimens at 2-8°C until shipment. **DO NOT FREEZE**.
- Ship immediately after collection and overnight on frozen gel ice packs. It is best to sandwich specimens between frozen ice packs in the cooler, (i.e. insulated foam shipping kit).
- **Check “Saturday Delivery” for specimens shipped on Fridays.**

Shipping to BPHL – Jacksonville:	Shipping to BPHL – Tampa:	Shipping to BPHL – Miami:
Bureau of Public Health Laboratories-Jacksonville <u>Attention:</u> Virology 1217 N. Pearl Street Jacksonville, FL 32202	Bureau of Public Health Laboratories-Tampa <u>Attention:</u> Virology 3602 Spectrum Blvd Tampa, FL 33612	Bureau of Public Health Laboratories-Miami <u>Attention:</u> Virology 1325 N.W. 14th Ave. Miami, FL 33125
For Additional Information: Call 904-791-1540 or email BPHL.JacksonvilleVirology@flhealth.gov	For Additional Information: Call 813-233-2260 or email BPHL.TampaVirology@flhealth.gov	For Additional Information: Call 305-325-2531 or email BPHL.MiamiVirology@flhealth.gov

- Package must be properly labeled with the UN 3373 marking, “Biological Substance, Category B”, and orientation labels.

Supply Examples*:

<u>Collection kits</u>	<u>Part Number</u>
Urine collection kits	- <u>Fisher Scientific</u> : 14-375-138 - <u>BD</u> : 364979
Viral Transport Media Kits with flocked swabs	- <u>Fisher Scientific</u> : 23-246-399 - <u>Thermo Scientific</u> : R12578
Category B Shipping cooler boxes	- <u>Fisher Scientific</u> : 11-676-14 - <u>Sonoco</u> : 318

*Supplies above are only examples and any manufacturer/brand can be used as long as it meets the requirements.