

This test is not performed at BPHL. Samples submitted to BPHL for Hantavirus testing, including Andes virus, will be forwarded to the CDC for testing.

Review the Test Menu for general specimen guidance prior to submission,
www.FloridaPublicHealthLab.com

Authorization

- Contact your local County Health Department prior to collecting any specimens from suspected Hantavirus cases. **Testing requires prior approval from epidemiology before specimen submission.**
- [County Health Departments - Florida Department of Health](#)

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 specimens are being shipped or estimated time of arrival for specimens that are couriered.
- **Couriered samples must be transported in a cooler box frozen on dry ice to arrive at the laboratory within 24 hours of collection. **Laboratory staff will check the temperature of the cooler upon arrival before accepting specimens.****
- *Please see page 2 for additional shipping information.*

Specimen Selection:

- **At least one** human serum should be collected more than 72 hours after symptom onset.
- The CDC may request additional samples be collected for testing. Especially if the first sample is within 72 hours of symptom onset or if they need additional specimens for testing such as EDTA whole blood.

Test Order:

- A completed DH1847 is required in order to complete testing, *including* who authorized the testing, **Outbreak ID, onset date, collection date**, travel history and symptoms.
 - [Submission Forms - FDOH](#)
- Under the Virology section of the DH1847, select “Other” and list “Hantavirus” as the test order.
- Please do not use electronic ordering.

Specimen Collection:

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

New World Hantavirus Testing Summary

At least 1mL of human serum should be collected using a red or yellow/gold top SST, followed by centrifuging the tube and then pouring off the serum into a sterile tube.

Label the tube with 2 unique patient identifiers, Ex: Full name and DOB, *and* the collection date. Information on the tube must match the requisition exactly.

Allow blood to clot thoroughly before centrifugation (typically 30 minutes).

Spin down (centrifuge) the specimen within 8 hours of collection.

Specimens should arrive at the lab as soon as possible and within 24 hours of collection.

- Freeze each tube as soon as possible after centrifugation at $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$.
- Place each tube in a separate zip-seal bag with absorbent material in each bag and the requisition form in the outer pocket of the bag.
- Ship frozen on dry ice in a cooler box. if dry ice is available to arrive at the laboratory within 24 hours of collection.
 - If shipping directly to the CDC, the samples must arrive frozen on dry ice.
- **Couriered samples must be transported in a cooler box frozen on dry ice to arrive at the laboratory within 24 hours of collection. **Laboratory staff will check the temperature of the cooler upon arrival before accepting specimens.****
- **Check “Saturday Delivery” for specimens shipped on Fridays.**

Shipping Address and Contact Information:

Shipping to BPHL – Jacksonville:	Shipping to BPHL – Tampa:	Shipping to BPHL – Miami:
Bureau of Public Health Laboratories- Jacksonville Attention: Virology 1217 N. Pearl Street Jacksonville, FL 32202	Bureau of Public Health Laboratories-Tampa Attention: Virology 3602 Spectrum Blvd Tampa, FL 33612	Bureau of Public Health Laboratories-Miami Attention: Virology 1325 N.W. 14th Ave. Miami, FL 33125
For Additional Information: Call 904-791-1540, 904-891-0735 or email BPHL.JacksonvilleVirology@flhealth.gov	For Additional Information: Call 813-285-1491, 813-967-0330 or email BPHL.TampaVirology@flhealth.gov	For Additional Information: Call 305-409-9925, 645-216-6753 or email BPHL.MiamiVirology@flhealth.gov

- Shipped packages must be properly labeled with the UN 3373 marking, the UN 1845 dry ice label with quantity, the shipping name, “Biological Substance, Category B”, and orientation labels.

Supply Examples*:

<u>Collection kits</u>	<u>Part Number</u>
BD Vacutainer® Venous Blood Collection 3.5 mL Tubes with polymer gel (yellow/gold top)	-Fisher Scientific: 02-683-97B -BD: 367983
BD Vacutainer™ Venous Blood Collection Tubes: SST™ Serum Separation Tubes (red/grey top)	-Fisher Scientific: 02-683-96 -BD: 367988
Greiner Bio-One VACUETTE™ CAT Serum Separator Clot Activator Blood Collection Tubes (red top with yellow ring)	-Fisher Scientific: 22-040-536 -Greiner Bio-One: 454067P

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

Turn Around Time:

- Turnaround time is 3-10 business days after the sample arrives at the CDC. CDC determines priority of specimens and will triage accordingly.
- Results will be provided through BPHL.