

Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions

Mumps, RT-PCR (Version 3)

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| Specimen Type | Collection Time | Collection Frequency | Collection Procedures | Transport Media | Shipping & Handling (S&H)** | |
|------------------------------|---|----------------------|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| Parotid Gland (Buccal) Swab* | At illness. For optimal isolation, collect within 72 hours of symptom onset. | NA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect only using synthetic tip swabs (ex. Dacron, Nylon, Polyester) with non-wooden shaft. Immediately after collection, place swab directly in 2-3 ml of Viral Transport Media (VTM). Minimum volume: 2 ml of VTM. | VTM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport device: Sterile leak-proof container. Rejection Criteria: Not transported in VTM. Swab on wooden shaft. Transport: Ship cold (2 - 8°C) on ice packs to arrive at WAPHL during business hours within 72 hrs of collection. Otherwise or if previously frozen, ship on dry ice. Ship as Category B. Storage: Refrigerate. If arriving at WAPHL after 72hrs of collection, or if testing will not be completed within 72hrs, freeze at ≤ -70°C. | |
| CSF# | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect in sterile screw capped specimen container. CSF Minimum volume: 1 ml of CSF Urine Minimum volume: 20 ml of urine (50 ml of urine preferred). | NA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport device: Sterile leak-proof, screw capped container. Rejection Criteria: Insufficient specimen volume. Transport: Ship cold (2 - 8°C) on ice packs to arrive at WAPHL during business hours within 72 hrs of collection. Otherwise or if previously frozen, ship on dry ice. Ship as Category B. Storage: Refrigerate. If arriving at WAPHL after 72 hrs of collection, or if testing will not be completed within 72hrs, freeze at ≤ -70°C. | |
| Urine | Collect ≤ 10 days post symptom onset. | | | | | |
| Culture Isolate | | | | Isolate from culture. | VTM | |

PHL has not validated these specimens; testing will be performed with approval from Virology Laboratory.

General Rejection Criteria (for additional details, see S&H)

- Urine collected within 3 days from the day of onset.
- Unaccepted specimen type.
- Not refrigerated or frozen properly.
- Insufficient specimen volume.
- Leaky specimen.
- Did not obtain LHJ approval.
- Failure to follow specific S&H requirements.

NOTE:

Specimens will not be processed until ALL of the following information are provided on requisition form:

- Patient name, patient's county of residence, second identifier, and date of onset.
- Two matching identifiers on both the tube and the laboratory requisition form.
- Specimen type, date of collection, and test requested.
- Submitter name, address, and telephone/FAX numbers.

Collection kit availability

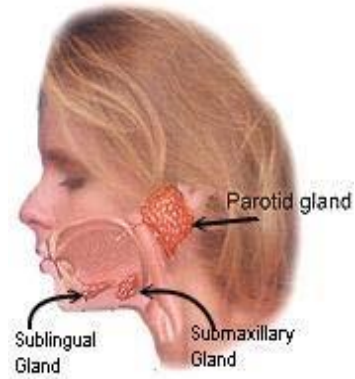
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Comments

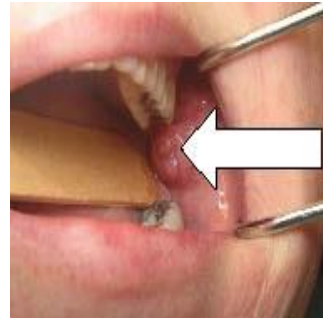
- Ship all specimen types as Category B.
- Testing requires approval by your Local Health Jurisdiction (LHJ) or state communicable disease epidemiologist.
- Buccal swab is the preferred specimen type for detecting mumps virus.

HOW TO COLLECT A BUCCAL SWAB FOR VIRAL TESTING

Step 1: Massage the parotid gland (area between the cheek and teeth below the ear) for 30 seconds prior to the collection of the buccal secretions. The parotid duct drains into this space near the upper rear molars.



Step 2: Swab the buccal cavity near the upper rear molars between the cheek and the teeth. Use a sterile Dacron or polyester swab with a metal or plastic shaft only*. Place swab between rear molars and cheek and leave in place 10 to 15 seconds.



Step 3: Place the swab immediately into a sterile vial containing 2mL of viral transport media (pink liquid). Break or cut shaft & seal vial. Label the vial with patient's name, specimen source and date collected. Keep sample cold. If there is more than 1 day delay in shipping, use ice packs. Do NOT freeze.



Step 4: Contact the Public Health - Seattle & King County Communicable Disease Epidemiology and Immunization Section at **206-296-4774** for information on where to submit specimens, how to ship them, and to obtain the Washington Public Health Laboratory requisition form. Please do not ship buccal specimens to a commercial laboratory for testing. Send only serum specimens to your commercial lab.

*Synthetic swabs with metal or plastic shafts **MUST BE USED**. Cotton swabs with wood shafts may contain substances that inhibit the enzymes used in PCR. Calcium alginate swabs cannot be processed at the Washington Public Health Laboratory (WA PHL).

Revised March 26, 2009

Reference: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/mumps/outbreak/faqs-lab-spec-collect.htm>