

Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions

Ebola Virus (Version 1)

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Specimen Type	Collection Time	Collection Frequency	Collection Procedures	Transport Media	Shipping & Handling (S&H)**
The following specimen types are acceptable for Ebola virus testing at the WAPHL:					
Whole blood or plasma (not serum)	3 days or later into illness preferred	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect two samples \geq 4ml into lavender-top EDTA plastic collection tubes. Minimum volume: 4ml. 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport device: Lavender-top EDTA tube. Rejection criteria: Do not submit serum. Do not submit specimens in glass containers. Do not submit specimens preserved in heparin tubes. Transport: Ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs. If previously frozen, ship on dry ice. Must be packaged and shipped Category A according to USDOT and ICAO/IATA regulations. Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C. If arriving at WAPHL \geq 72 hrs of collection, freeze at \leq -70°C.
The following specimen types are acceptable for Ebola virus testing at the CDC (upon DOH consultation with the CDC):					
Specimens other than EDTA blood, including other whole blood, serum and tissue		NA	Please contact Bioterrorism Lab (206) 418-5562		Please contact Bioterrorism Lab (206) 418-5562

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

- Unaccepted specimen type.
- Not refrigerated or frozen properly.
- Insufficient specimen volume.
- Leaky specimen.
- Did not obtain LHJ or DOH CDE 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, and second identifier.
- 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

Not available.

Comments

- Collect specimens using appropriate infection control procedures.
- Optimal testing with freshly-collected specimens stored and shipped refrigerated (2-8°C) that arrive for processing within 72 hours of collection.