# Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions

**HSV, Culture (Cx) (Version 1)**

Page 1 of 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Type</th>
<th>Collection Time</th>
<th>Collection Frequency</th>
<th>Collection Procedures</th>
<th>Transport Media</th>
<th>Shipping &amp; Handling (S&amp;H)**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Vesicular Fluid | At illness.                                   | NA                   | • Collect only using synthetic tip swabs (ex. Dacron, Nylon, Polyester) with non-wooden shaft.  
|                 | For optimal isolation, collect within 72 hours of symptom onset. At illness. |                      | • Immediately after collection, place swab directly in 2-3 ml of Viral Transport Media (VTM).  
|                 |                                             |                      | • **Minimum volume:** 2 ml of VTM.                                                     | VTM             |                             |
| Endocervical Swab|                                             | NA                   | • Transport device: Sterile leak-proof container.                                    |                 |                             |
| CSF             |                                             |                      | • Rejection Criteria: Not transported in VTM. Swab on wooden shaft.                   |                 |                             |
| Brain           |                                             |                      | • Transport: Refrigerate and ship to arrive at WAPHL during business hours within 72 hrs of collection. Ship cold (2 - 8°C) on ice packs. If previously frozen, ship on dry ice. Ship as Category B.  
|                 |                                             |                      | • Storage: Refrigerate. If arriving at WAPHL after 72 hrs of collection, freeze at ≤ -70°C. |                 |                             |

*Preferred specimen type, if applicable  
**All specimens must be shipped meeting IATA, OSHA, and USPS requirements.  
NA: Not Applicable  
Last Revised: March 2015
**General Rejection Criteria (for additional details, see S&H)**

- Unaccepted specimen type.
- Not refrigerated or frozen properly.
- Insufficient specimen volume.
- Leaky specimen.
- 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**

Not available.

**Comments**