## Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions

### Mumps, RT-PCR (Version 1)

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| Oropharyngeal Swab*          | At illness.                          | NA                   | • 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             | • **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 72 hrs of collection, or if testing will not be completed within 72 hrs, freeze at ≤ -70°C. |
| Parotid Gland (Buccal) Swab* | For optimal isolation, collect within 72 hours of symptom onset. | NA                   | • Collect in sterile screw capped specimen container.  
• **CSF Minimum volume:** 1 ml of CSF  
• **Urine Minimum volume:** 10 ml of urine (50 mL of urine preferred).                                                                                     | NA              | • **Transport device:** Sterile leak-proof, screw capped container.  
• **Rejection Criteria:** NA.  
• **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 72 hrs, freeze at ≤ -70°C. |
| CSF#                         |                                     |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | NA              |                             |
| Urine                       |                                     |                      | • Isolate from culture.                                                                                                                                                                                               | VTM             |                             |
| Culture Isolate             |                                     |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 |                             |

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

*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.
- 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

Not available.

Comments

- Ship all specimen types as Category B.
- Testing requires approval by your Local Health Jurisdiction (LHJ) or state communicable disease epidemiologist.
- The preferred specimen types for detection of mumps virus are buccal swab and urine.