## Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions

**Varicella zoster virus, Culture (VZV, Cx) (Version 1)**

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| Vesicular Fluid   | At illness. For optimal isolation, collect within 72 hours of symptom onset. | 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 container.  
**Rejection Criteria**: Not transported in VTM. Swab on wooden shaft.  
**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  

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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.
-Reason for testing at WAPHL.

Collection kit availability

Not available.

Comments