



**GUAM PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY GUIDELINES
SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS FOR MEASLES / RUBEOLA
(SEROLOGIC TESTING IgM)**

<p>Case Definition</p>	<p>A patient under investigation (PUI) for Measles / Rubeola disease is a person with the following characteristics:</p> <p>Clinical Criteria: A generalized maculopapular rash lasting 3 or more days, temperature of 38.3°C (101°F) or greater, AND</p> <p>One of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cough • Coryza • Conjunctivitis • For more information: https://ndc.services.cdc.gov/case-definitions/measles-2013/ https://www.cdc.gov/measles/lab-tools/serology.html
<p>Methodology</p>	<p>Capture IgM Enzyme Linked Immunosorbant Assay (ELISA)</p>
<p>Specimen Requirements</p>	<p>SPECIMEN FOR MEASLES / RUBEOLA SEROLOGIC TESTING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note: IgM positive may not occur until four (4) days post-rash onset. • Require: Serum, 2 mL minimum volume. • Collect: Blood for serologic testing by aseptic venipuncture in a red-top or serum-separator tube (SST) 7-10 mL of blood. • Centrifuge blood collection tubes (10 minutes at 1000-1300g) to separate serum from clot. • Transfer aseptically serum to sterile tube that has externally threaded cap with screw-top seal or equivalent. • Refrigerate serum (2-8°C) within eight (8) hours of collection. <p>TRANSPORT CONDITIONS: less than or equal to 48 hours at 4°C</p> <p>STORAGE CONDITIONS: more than 48 hours at -20°C to -70°C up to 8 weeks</p>
<p>Specimen Submission Guidelines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call the DPHSS at 671-689-3942 for pre-approval, before collecting and sending specimens for suspected Measles/Rubeola. <u>NO SPECIMEN WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION.</u> • Once vetted/approved by DPHSS, complete the specimen submission form with patient's name (last name, first name), date of birth, unique Identification (ID) number/specimen ID number, date of collection, time

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	<p>of collection, initial of collector (Note: Test subject to CLIA regulations and these requirements).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Label specimen collection tubes with patient’s name (last name, first name), date of birth, unique Identification (ID) number/specimen ID number, date of collection, time of collection, initial of collector (Note: Test subject to CLIA regulations and these requirements). • Specimens for transport to the GPHL must be placed in a sealed biohazard transport bag and placed in a sealed, decontaminated primary sterile container. • Specimens collected should be packaged and transported within the facility without attempting to open collection specimen container. Wrap the specimen with absorbent material and place in a sealable specimen biohazard transport bag and into a secondary watertight, leak-proof secondary receptacle. • Fill out COMPLETELY the GPHL Submission Form. • Call the GPHL 671-300-9082 or 671-300-9085 to inform staff of the specimen delivery. • Physicians/providers will be notified of the result by the GPHL Technologist once completed.
<p>Safety Precautions Infection Control for Collecting and Handling Specimens</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow established standards compliant with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Bloodborne Pathogen Standard. This includes wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) and adhering to engineered safeguards, for all specimens regardless of whether they are identified as infectious. <p>For specimen collection, recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use full face shield or goggles, mask to cover all of nose and mouth, gloves, fluid resistant or impermeable gowns. Additional PPE may be required in certain situations. <p>For Laboratory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specimens for transport to the GPHL must be placed in a sealed biohazard transport bag and placed in a sealed, decontaminated primary container. • All disposable wastes (PPE) used for collection and processing should be autoclaved.
<p>Specimen Transport Guidelines</p>	<p>Transport specimens with cold packs (2-8° C), with dry ice if exceeding 48 hrs. Deliver specimens to the GPHL no later than 4 PM, Mondays-Fridays.</p>
<p>Rejection Criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specimens sent to the GPHL without prior consultation and notice; • Specimen quantity is insufficient to perform the test; • Specimen is hemolyzed, lipemic, or bacterially contaminated; • Specimen not packed as described in Specimen Submission guidelines • Specimen is not received at 2-8°C/ packed on cold packs;

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlabeled specimens, incomplete label on specimen collection tube (Refer to Specimen Submission Guidelines). • Illegible/ incomplete Submission form (e.g., no date of onset, clinical description, etc.) • Specimen label does not match the Submission form.
Result Notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory reports will be forwarded to the Submitting Facility, DPHSS, and the BCDC Administrator via FAX. • Any other request for copies of laboratory reports, apart from that stipulated above will not be accepted.
Contact Information	<p>Alan Mallari, Microbiologist III, GPHL (671) 300-9080 or (671) 300-9081 alan.mallari@dphss.guam.gov</p> <p>Lea Nisay, Microbiologist I, GPHL (Alternate) (671) 300-9083 FAX (671) 300-9098 lea.nisay@dphss.guam.gov</p> <p>Anne Marie Santos, GPHL, Central Laboratory Administrator (671) 300-9082 or (671) 300-9085 annemarie.santos@dphss.guam.gov</p>

Attachments:

GPHL Submission Form

References:

CDC Case Definition for Measles 2013, last reviewed April 16, 2021
CDC Guidance on Measles Serology, February 10, 2022