



**Date:** Thursday March 14, 2024  
**Pages:** 1  
**To:** Health Care Providers  
**From:** Dr. Dueck, Medical Officer of Health  
**Re:** Measles Testing One-Page Summary

For suspect measles, [implement airborne and other additional precautions](#) and [immediately report suspected cases to Lambton Public Health](#) at 519-383-8331.

### Measles Testing Summary Table

Specimen Type / Date Collected	Collection Kit	Collection Requisition on Lab Requisition Form
<b>PCR: <a href="#">NP or Throat Swab AND Urine</a></b>		
NP swab/aspirate OR throat swab collected within 7 days after rash onset	Universal transport medium (UTM) collection kit (pink medium)	Request "Nasopharyngeal, Measles Virus Detection" or "Throat, Measles Virus Detection" including symptoms and onset date
Clean catch urine 50 mL collected within 14 days after rash onset	Sterile container	Request "Urine, Measles Virus Detection" including symptoms and onset date
<b><a href="#">Serology</a> (If <a href="#">airborne and other additional precautions</a> can be ensured at testing lab)</b>		
ACUTE blood specimen 5 mL collected within 7 days after rash onset	Blood, clotted – vacutainer tubes (SST)	Request "Blood, Acute Measles IgG/IgM Diagnosis" including symptoms and onset date
Follow-up CONVALESCENT blood specimen 5 mL collected 7-10 days after rash onset AND minimum 5 days after acute sample	Blood, clotted – vacutainer tubes (SST)	Request "Blood, Convalescent Measles IgG/IgM Diagnosis" including symptoms and onset date

PHO Kit & Test Ordering: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/laboratory-services/kit-test-ordering-instructions>  
Adapted from Windsor-Essex County Health Unit: <https://www.wechu.org/health-care-providers/measles-resources>

\*When there is a high index of suspicion for measles (e.g., compatible illness in a returned traveler or contact of a laboratory confirmed case), it may be warranted to test beyond the above listed time periods when specimens could not be collected earlier in the illness. This can be discussed with PHO's laboratory on a case by case basis.

1. During regular hours, please notify [PHO's Laboratory Customer Service Centre](#) at 416-235-6556 or after-hours, the Duty Officer at 416-605-3113, prior to submitting STAT measles specimen(s).
2. STAT Measles specimens must be shipped separate from routine specimens.
3. [Clearly mark the outside of the package](#) indicating:  
'STAT' (preferably in a large bold bright colour)  
Outbreak / Investigation number (if applicable)

