

Measles Diagnostics

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is the preferred testing method for acute cases of measles and is performed in public health laboratories.

If you want to test a patient for measles:

- 1) Call UCSF Infection Control (415) 806-0269 (business hours) and after hours UCSF Hospital Supervisor (415) 353-1964
- 2) Call SF Department of Health (415) 554–2830 to coordinate testing

Measles Test	Order	Test Code	Test Specifications
IgM <i>and</i> NP or throat PCR <i>and</i> Urine PCR	Microbiology- Test not listed (special sendout test) <i>This single order includes the IgM AND NP OR throat AND urine test</i>	Lab 5088	Collect 2ml of blood in a gold top. Throat OR nasopharyngeal (NP) swab using a Dacron-tipped swab and place in liquid viral or universal transport media (throat is preferred over NP swab). Urine sample (10-50 mL) in a sterile container (centrifuge tube or urine specimen container).
IgG	Measles IgG (serum) Lab	Lab 3197	Collect minimum 1mL in a gold top.

You may access additional instructions for diagnosis and testing:

SF Public Health Laboratory on specimen collection and storage
<https://www.sfcddcp.org/public-health-lab/laboratory-test-menu/>

General Requisition Form

<https://www.sfcddcp.org/public-health-lab/forms-specimen-culture-submission/information>

CA Department of Health Measles Laboratory Testing Guidance 9/2017

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Measles-Testing-InformationVRDL.pdf>