



August 15, 2018

Dear OSPHL Clients,

This letter serves as notification that the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) is increasing our capacity to provide real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) testing for measles (rubeola) and mumps viruses. These tests will enhance investigations of suspect measles and mumps cases in the state of Oregon. Local health departments must coordinate approval for testing with Oregon State Acute and Communicable Disease Epidemiologists.

Please share this notice with staff who order these tests or receive and interpret laboratory results.

### **Measles (Rubeola) and Mumps RT-PCR**

The OSPHL now offers RT-PCR testing for suspect cases of measles and mumps. Previously, testing was performed by a different laboratory for these cases. All testing for suspect cases must be approved by Oregon State Acute and Communicable Disease Epidemiologists. Specimens received but not approved will not be tested until approved.

RT-PCR results will be available from the OSPHL within three working days after receipt of the specimen or approval, whichever is later.

To standardize information about laboratory testing, the one-page documents for submitting specimens for suspect cases have been removed. Local Public Health Authorities should reference the Investigative Guidelines for information about recommended testing. The OSPHL Lab Test Menu ([www.healthoregon.org/labtests](http://www.healthoregon.org/labtests)) provides details for submitting specimens for suspect cases, including those performed at the OSPHL and sent to reference laboratories.

### **How to Order**

To order both measles and mumps RT-PCR testing, please complete one Virology/Immunology Test Request Form (OHA 0042) for each order and submit two specimens.

Examples for completing the Test Request Form for measles and mumps PCR, IgG, and IgM testing are included as an attachment to this message.

If your facility utilizes electronic test ordering, our Laboratory Information Management System Administrator has contacted your electronic health record (EHR) vendor or local EHR team to ensure the new order choices are available for use.

### **Specimen Collection, Storage, and Transport**

Complete instructions for collecting, storing, and transporting specimens can be found on the OSPHL Lab Test Menu at [www.healthoregon.org/labtests](http://www.healthoregon.org/labtests).

### **Fees for Testing**

Testing will be performed at no cost for approved specimens only.

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The OSPHL will continue to forward measles IgG or IgM requests to the Washington State Public Health Laboratory for testing. Mumps serology should continue to be performed at private, commercial laboratories.

We hope that the timing of this message gives your facility sufficient time to implement the change. Please contact me with questions at 503-693-4154 or [Vladimir.Yamshchikov@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:Vladimir.Yamshchikov@dhsosha.state.or.us).

Sincerely,

Vladimir Yamshchikov, PhD  
Manager, Virology/Immunology Testing Section

John Fontana, PhD, (HCLD) ABB  
Director, Oregon State Public Health  
Laboratory

Attachment: How to Order Measles and Mumps Test

## Attachment: How to Order Measles or Mumps Tests

Use Form: Virology/Immunology Test Request Form (OHA 0042)

To order Measles or Mumps RT-PCR:

OTHER <i>Requires prior approval or outbreak number</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	MOL NOV: Norovirus RT-PCR
<input type="checkbox"/>	MOL IA/IB QUAL: Influenza RT-PCR Screen
<input type="checkbox"/>	MOLRVP (ILINET): Respiratory Virus Panel RT-PCR
<input type="checkbox"/>	ZIKA VIRUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify): <b>Measles PCR -or- Mumps PCR</b>

To order Measles Serology:

REFERRAL TESTING / SEND-OUTS
<b>CDC Referrals</b> — Requires completed CDC form at: <a href="http://bitly.com/or-cdc-testing">http://bitly.com/or-cdc-testing</a>
Write in:
<b>Non-CDC Referrals</b>
Write in: <b>Measles IgG or IgM</b>

To order Mumps Serology:

Do not send specimens to the OSPHL.  
Contact your commercial reference laboratory.