
Lab Dept: Serology

Test Name: RUBEOLA ANTIBODY, IGM, SERUM

General Information

Lab Order Codes: ROM

Synonyms: Measles IgM Antibody, Serum

CPT Codes: 86765 - Antibody; rubeola

Test Includes: Rubeola IgM antibody reported as positive or negative

Logistics

Test indications: To determine acute-phase infection with rubeola (measles) virus using IgM antibody testing. Testing for IgM-class antibodies to measles should be limited to patients with clinically compatible disease.

To aid in the identification of nonimmune individuals through IgM antibody testing.

The presence of IgM-class antibodies, with or without the presence of IgG-class antibodies, to measles virus may support a clinical diagnosis of recent/acute phase infection with the virus. IgM results alone should not be used to diagnose measles virus infection.

The absence of IgM-class antibodies suggests lack of an acute phase infection with measles virus. However, serology may be negative for IgM-class antibodies in early disease, and results should be interpreted in the context of clinical findings.

Lab Testing Sections: Serology - Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Clinic Laboratories (MML Test Code: ROM)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 1 – 3 days

Special Instructions: N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type:	Blood
Container:	SST (serum separator tube, red/gold/marble) Alternate: Red no gel
Draw Volume:	1.5 mL (minimum: 0.6 mL) blood
Processed Volume:	0.5 mL (minimum: 0.2 mL) serum
Collection:	Routine venipuncture
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove serum aliquot into a screw-capped round bottom plastic vial. Store and ship at refrigerated temperatures. Forward promptly. Serum specimen stable refrigerated (preferred) or frozen for 14 days.
Patient Preparation:	N/A
Sample Rejection:	Unlabeled or mislabeled specimens; incorrect specimen type or collection container; gross hemolysis; gross lipemia; heat-inactivated specimens.

Interpretive

Reference Range:	Negative
Critical Values:	Positive results are defined by the reference lab as semi-urgent
Limitations:	A serum specimen collected during the acute phase of infection when only low titers of IgM are present may yield negative results by this procedure. Rare heterotypic responses with rubella virus and varicella virus have been reported from measles virus.
Methodology:	Immunofluorescence Assay (IFA)
References:	Mayo Clinic Laboratories December 2023
Updates:	12/19/2023: Initial entry