
Lab Dept: Microbiology/Virology

Test Name: MPOX SCREEN TO MDH

General Information

Lab Order Codes: NVOPX

Synonyms: Non-variola Orthopoxvirus PCR with confirmatory testing for specific Orthopoxvirus

CPT Codes: 87798 – Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA) not otherwise specified; amplified probe technique, each organism

Test Includes: Testing at MDH IDL is for Non-variola *Orthopoxvirus*; confirmatory testing for specific *Orthopoxvirus* (i.e. MPOX, vaccinia, etc) is performed at CDC. Negative screen results may reflex to Varicella-zoster Virus PCR by MDH.

Logistics

- Test indications:**
- An individual with a new unexplained acute rash or
 - An individual who within 21 days of symptoms has had:
 - Contact with individual/s with a similar appearing rash or who received a diagnosis of confirmed or probable MPOX or
 - Close or intimate in-person contact with individuals in a social network experiencing MPOX activity or
 - Travel outside the US to a country with confirmed cases of MPOX or where MPOX virus is endemic or
 - Contact with a dead or live wild animal or exotic pet that is an African endemic species or used a product derived from such animals (e.g., game meat, creams, lotions, powders, etc.)

Evaluating and testing for other common rash illness including syphilis, herpes simplex, and chickenpox if indicated is encouraged.

Lab Testing Sections: Sendouts

Referred to: MDH with confirmatory testing at CDC

Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Testing is typically available Monday-Friday, however frequency may vary depending on epidemiological prevalence. Availability of weekend testing will be determined by MDH upon consultation with ordering physician. Specimen must arrive at MDH by 1030 to be analyzed same-day.

Turnaround Time: 1-3 days for screening at MDH-PHL. CDC confirmation results for presumptive positives when available

Special Instructions: Provider must contact Infectious Disease Epidemiology Prevention and Control at 651-201-5414 or 877-676-5414 before requesting this test.

Indicate body site or sites within order comment (if multiple) and on specimen labels. A result will be reported for each body site lesion sampled.

Specimen

Specimen Type: Dry lesion swab specimens (do not use transport media)

Lesion crusts or scabs

Container: Dry nylon, polyester or Dacron swab placed in sterile, dry screw-capped vial

Minimum Volume: Minimum of two swabs collected from each lesion

Collection: Collect samples from more than one lesion, preferably from different locations on the body and/or from lesions with differing appearances

Collect two swabs each per lesion

Submit lesion crusts or scabs with a swab from the same lesion

Vigorously swab or brush lesion with two separate sterile dry nylon, polyester, or Dacron swabs

Place two swabs from one lesion in one screw-capped sterile container (preferably with an O-ring); break off end of swab applicator handle if needed.

Use separate sterile containers for each set of same-lesion swabs

Send immediately to Children's Laboratory. Refrigerate within 1 hour of collection if transport will be delayed.

Special Processing: **Lab Staff: Must be refrigerated within 1 hour of collection.**

Specimens must be shipped at refrigerated temperature and received within 7 days of collection.

Sample Rejection: Specimen will be rejected if received in transport media.

Interpretive

Reference Range: Negative

Critical Values: n/a

Limitations:

Methodology: PCR

References: [Clinical Laboratory Guide to Services - M Tests - Minnesota Dept. of Health \(state.mn.us\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/clinlab/guide-to-services/m-tests)

Updates: 2/2/2023: Changed Monleypox to MPOX per WHO guidelines.