

VIRUS CULTURE

Orderable – VIRCRO

Turnaround Time: Sample dependent

Specimen Type and Collection Information:

Depending on investigation requested certain specimen types will be forwarded to Public Health Ontario Laboratory (PHOL). Visit the [PHOL Test Information Index](#) for collection information.



Laboratory:
Microbiology



Requisition:
[PUBLIC HEALTH ONTARIO
LABORATORY TEST
REQUISITION](#)

This requisition **MUST**
accompany the specimen













Method of Analysis:
Refer to Public Health
Ontario Test Information
Index







Test Schedule:
Referred out weekdays



Referred to:
Public Health Ontario
Laboratory
1200 Commissioners Rd E
London, Ontario
519-455-9310

Investigation	Specimen Type	Collection Containers
Respiratory Viruses	Tissues	
	Other specimen types	See Respiratory Virus Panel (RPCR)
Adenovirus	Swab: Conjunctiva	
	Lower respiratory, Urine (for BAL see Respiratory Virus PCR)	
	Plasma (Referred to Sick Kids)	
	Stool	See Gastrointestinal Virus
Mumps	CSF (1 mL)	
	Swabs: throat, buccal	
	Urine (5 mL)	
Measles	CSF (1 mL)	
	Swabs: nasopharyngeal and/or throat should be collected within seven days after onset of rash	
	Urine (50ml)	

VIRUS CULTURE

Investigation	Specimen Type	Collection Containers
Rubella	Swabs: throat, nasopharyngeal	
	Urine (10 mL), Aborted material (1.0 gram)	
Enterovirus	CSF	See Enterovirus PCR
	Stool (1.0 gram)	
	Swabs: nasal, nasopharyngeal, throat, skin lesions	

In general:

Swabs used must be sterile cotton, dacron or rayon with plastic or aluminum shafts. Do not use calcium alginate swabs and avoid swabs with wooden shafts.

Place swabs, scrapings and small pieces of tissue into a small volume of virus transport media.

Place bulk specimens into sterile containers; add a small amount of viral transport media to prevent drying of tissue. Do not add viral transport media to urines, sterile fluids or stools.

Critical Information Required:

Ensure the Public Health Ontario Laboratory Requisition includes the following:

- Patient setting
- Symptoms and relevant clinical findings
- Date of onset
- Travel history if applicable

Refer to [Public Health Ontario Laboratory Test Information Index](#) for specific criteria required for each investigation.

Specify **Investigation** requested in the **Specimen Description** field when placing order in PowerChart and on Public Health Ontario Laboratory Requisition.

Storage and Shipment:

Specimen must be received within 24 hours and should be stored at 4°C as soon as possible following collection. If the transport time exceeds 24 hours, the specimen will only be tested if appropriate.