



Department of Health and Human Services
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Detection of Syphilis by Three Methods *Laboratory Submission Information Sheet*

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes: Syphilis is a Notifiable Condition. If you have not already done so, please report suspect or confirmed cases to the Maine CDC via the disease reporting line: 1-800-821-5821 (24hrs/day 7 days/week.)
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NO, however, submission of samples of suspect cases is recommended.
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on requisition must include: test requested, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, submitter name and contact information.• Important: all specimens must be labeled with patient name, DOB or other unique identifier, and be accompanied by a HETL requisition.
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cerebral Spinal Fluid for VDRL (CSF - 0.5ml minimum) or serum for RPR screen/quantitation and TPPA confirmation (at least 0.5mL). Samples should be kept at 4°C for short term storage and may be frozen (-20°C) for long term storage. Collect specimen in a sterile leak proof container. Avoid contamination of specimen with red blood cells.
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spinal Fluid: Collect specimen 2–10 days after onset of symptoms in sterile container.• Serum: Collect specimen 3–10 days after onset of symptoms, in a serum separator tube
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Results on serum are generally available within 1 - 3 business days of specimen receipt• Results on spinal fluid are generally available within 7 business days of specimen receipt
Unacceptable Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specimens received without a form and clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze.• Rejection Criteria: CSF or serum in specimen collection tube that contains anticoagulant• Specimen not refrigerated or not frozen• Incorrect specimen type
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RPR - Reactive or Non-reactive; RPR Quantitation - titer provided; TPPA - Reactive or Non-reactive.• CSF - Reactive or Non-reactive. If reactive, a titer is provided.• Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$15 - RPR syphilis screen/quantitation• \$20 - TPPA confirmation• \$15 - VDRL CSF screen
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RPR serum screen - 86592; RPR Titer (quantitation) - 86593• TPPA serum confirmation - 86780• VDRL CSF screen - 86592; VDRL Titer (quantitation) - 86593
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bacteriology at 207-287-1704• Virology, Respiratory, Arbovirus, Serology, and STI at 207-287-1722• Molecular Biology, Sequencing, and Foodborne at 207-287-5769• Mycobacterium and Rabies at 207-287-1706