**LABORATORY TESTING FOR MEASLES (RUBEOLA)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Test Method** | **PCR** (Rubeola Virus Nucleic Acid)  1. This test is used to determine active infection.  2. Testing will be performed at a CDC contract lab.    DO NOT conduct serological testing (IgG or IgM) |
| **Specimen** | **1. Nasopharyngeal Swab (NP) - preferred**  2. Throat Swab (TS)  **Please note: sterile polyester or rayon swabs with plastic or metal handles should be used.**  **(**Cotton or calcium alginate swabs or swabs with wooden handles have been shown to inactivate virus and inhibit PCR invalidating the laboratory test results.)  3. Urine: 20-100mL in clean/sterile leak-proof container (not in UTM) |
| **Submit to Send Out Lab** | Order test in EPIC:  **Misc Lab Referral (aka Miscellaneous Lab Order) LAB2138**  **Comment: Submit to Alaska State Virology Lab (ASVL) for Measles PCR** |
| **Storage/**  **Transport** | 1. Ship inoculated UTM to ASVL on cool packs (4⁰C/39.2F). 2. If shipping is delayed >24 hours ship frozen. 3. ASVL will overnight the sample to the CDC Contract Lab. |
| **Results** | Not Detected = Rubeola Virus nucleic acid was not detected.  Detected = Rubeola Virus nucleic acid was detected (current measles infection) |
| **Turnaround Time** | 2 days from date of receipt at CDC Contract Lab |
| Contact the following partners for assistance, support, coordination, reporting:   * **PAMC Infection Prevention** 212-4829 / via House Supervisor 212-2584 (after hours) * Alaska State Public Health at 907-269-8000 / 1-800-478-0084 (after hours) * PAMC Core Lab at 212-3631 | |

For more information on MEASLES please visit the CDC website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/hcp/index.html>

Approved by Laboratory and Infection Prevention 8/31/18