**LABORATORY TESTING FOR MEASLES (RUBEOLA)**

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| **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.
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| **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
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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