



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
NH PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

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MONKEYPOX VIRUS SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND TRANSPORT KIT INSTRUCTIONS

Important Information:

For initial diagnostic testing for Monkeypox, CDC recommends testing for Monkeypox in any person who presents a consistent rash or skin lesions, especially if the person is a man who reports sexual contact with other men or someone who reports a significant travel history in the month before illness onset.

Clinicians should immediately report any suspect case of Monkeypox to the Division of Public Health Services (DPHS) by calling 603-271-4496 (after hours 603-271-5300 and ask to speak to the public health professional on call). DPHS will give approval for testing and must be obtained prior to testing at the NPHL.

Kit components:

- Two sterile dry nylon, polyester or Dacron swabs
- 2 - 1.5 or 2ml sterile empty screw capped tubes with O-ring
- 2 - Parafilm squares
- Specimen collection and transport instructions
- Resealable specimen bag
- Test Requisition

Specimen: One or more vesicle or ulcer, or dry scraping of scab

Procedure for collection:

1. Put on proper personal protection equipment (PPE) prior to collection.
2. Vigorously swab or brush lesion with two (2) separate sterile polyester swabs
3. Break off or snip off end of applicator of each swab and put in separate sterile tube. Assure swab fits perfectly in the tube. Do not bend swab to fit into tube. Cutting the swab shaft prior to collection is permissible.

DO NOT ADD OR STORE IN VIRAL OR UNIVERSAL TRANSPORT MEDIA

4. Label specimens with name of patient, date of birth, & date of collection.
5. Wrap one square of Parafilm around the top of each tube.
6. Refrigerate specimens (2-8°C) as soon as possible or within one hour of collection.
7. Submit specimens to the NH Public Health Laboratories with completed clinical laboratory test requisition on ice packs.
8. If approved for testing by the Division of Public Health Services, once collected, call the courier line at the NH PHL for pickup: 603-271-0305.

**For kit orders, please email us at phlclinicalkitorders@dhhs.nh.gov
or call us at 603-271-4605 or 1-800-852-3345 ext. 4605
For technical questions, please call the Virology Unit at 603-271-4661**