



Department of Health and Human Services
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Detection of Cryptosporidium by RT-PCR

Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes: Cryptosporidium 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• Sample submission of suspect cases is recommended.
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on requisition must include: suspected organism if known or required, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, submitter name and contact information.• Important: all specimens must be labeled with patient name and be accompanied by a HETL requisition.
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stool samples in Cary-Blair• Raw stool
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stool: If possible, collect before start of treatment. Specimen may be raw stool, or stool in Cary-Blair. Samples in Cary-Blair should arrive at the laboratory within 48 hours of collection. Raw stool samples must be transported to lab within 2 hours of collection.• Ship samples at ambient temperature
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Results are generally available within 48 – 72 hours 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.• Specimens in poorly labeled/unlabeled or leaking containers.• Raw specimens not refrigerated or frozen, or not received in the lab within 2 hours• Specimens that arrive in fixatives such as formalin or Zinc-PVA.
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Cryptosporidium DNA detected” or “Cryptosporidium DNA not detected”• If speciation is needed, specimens will be sent to CDC – Atlanta at no charge to submitter• Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition.
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$110 (Fee waived if testing/identification is part of an outbreak investigation by Maine CDC)
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 87798 (PCR)
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