Department of Health and Human Services
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory
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Herpes Simplex Virus 1 and 2 Detection by Real-Time PCR Assay
Laboratory Submission Information Sheet

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	• No
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen	• No
Required Information	• 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	• Collect lesion material on synthetic-tipped swab and place in sterile viral or universal transport media • Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF) (0.5ml minimum, 1ml preferred) . DO NOT DILUTE • ONLY synthetic-tipped swabs (Polyester, Rayon, Dacron) with plastic shafts should be used.
Collection Instructions	• Non-CSF specimens should be submitted in viral transport media/other appropriate transport media. • Store specimens at 2 to 8 °C until ready for shipping. Specimens should be submitted to lab as soon as possible. Ship specimens on frozen cold packs.
Turn Around Time	• Results are generally available within 1 - 3 business days of specimen receipt
Rejection Criteria	• Specimens received without a requisition form, clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze. Specimens in poorly labeled, unlabeled, or leaking containers. Specimens transported at incorrect temperature. Calcium alginate swabs, or swabs with wooden shafts. • CSF diluted in any form will not be tested
Results	• Herpes simplex virus 1 DNA Detected; Herpes simplex virus 2 DNA Detected • Herpes simplex virus 1 AND 2 Detected • Herpes simplex virus DNA Not Detected • Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition
Laboratory Testing Fee	• $110.00
Applicable CPT Codes	• 87798 (PCR)
Additional Information	• 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