



Department of Health and Human Services  
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory  
47 Independence Drive  
# 12 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0012  
Tel: (207) 287-2727; Fax: (207) 287-6832  
TTY: 1-800-606-0215

## Norovirus Detection by Real-Time RT-PCR *Laboratory Submission Information Sheet*

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes: If you have not already done so, please report any suspect outbreak to the Maine CDC via the disease reporting line: 1-800-821-5821 (24 hours/day 7 days/week)</li></ul>
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No</li><li>• Specimen submission is recommended in outbreak situations.</li><li>• Consider submitting specimens from 3-5 patients.</li><li>• No more than 5 samples should be submitted unless instructed to do so.</li></ul>
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information on requisition must include: test requested, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, submitter name and contact information.</li><li>• <b>Important: all specimens must be labeled with patient name, DOB or other unique identifier, and be accompanied by a HETL requisition.</b></li></ul>
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stool should be submitted in a leak-proof container, with or without viral transport media</li><li>• ONLY synthetic-tipped swabs (Polyester, Dacron, Rayon) with plastic shafts should be used.</li><li>• Vomitus may be submitted when stool is not available.</li></ul>
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collect specimen soon after onset of illness and preferably before start of treatment.</li><li>• Specimens should be submitted in viral transport media or other appropriate transport media.</li><li>• 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.</li></ul>
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Results are generally available within 1 - 3 business days of specimen receipt</li></ul>
Rejection Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specimens received without a requisition form, clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze. Specimens in poorly labeled, unlabeled, or leaking containers.</li><li>• Specimens transported at incorrect temperature.</li><li>• Do not use wooden shaft or calcium alginate swab.</li></ul>
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Norovirus genogroup I RNA Detected, Norovirus genogroup I RNA Not Detected, or Inconclusive</li><li>• Norovirus genogroup II RNA Detected, Norovirus genogroup II RNA Not Detected, or Inconclusive</li><li>• Results will only be reported to the submitter listed on the requisition</li></ul>
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$110 (Fee waived if testing is part of an outbreak investigation by Maine CDC)</li></ul>
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 87798</li></ul>
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bacteriology at 207-287-1704</li><li>• Virology, Respiratory, Arbovirus, Serology, and STI at 207-287-1722</li><li>• Molecular Biology, Sequencing, and Foodborne at 207-287-5769</li><li>• Mycobacterium and Rabies at 207-287-1706</li></ul>