

Laboratory Services Guide to Measles (Rubeola) Testing

Test	Clinical Uses	How to obtain	Additional information
Measles IgM antibody	Recommended for confirmation of acute infection	Measles IgM	-Sensitivity varies by timing of specimen collection and immunization status -IgM detectable for at least one month after rash onset in non-immunized individuals -if negative and rash persists >72 hours, repeat test recommended
Measles IgG antibody	Recommended for confirmation of immune status	Measles IgG	Can also be used to confirm acute infection with significant titer increase between acute and convalescent serum
Measles Culture	Recommended for confirmation of acute infection	Measles Culture	Turnaround time 12-16 days
Measles RT-PCR	May be used to diagnose acute infection	Measles PCR	Test is referred to DCHHS. Contact Microbiology Lab at 25426, or search Directory On Call for "Microbiology" for more information.