

## Request Testing Approval

Call New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) 1-833-796-8773 to discuss suspect case with an epidemiologist. Have the following information available:

- Name and date of birth
- History of illness onset including symptom progression, highest measured fever and date of rash onset.
- Travel or exposure history
- Vaccine history

## Collect Specimen

Collect a nasopharyngeal (NP) [preferred] or throat swab using a commercial swab product designed for the collection of NP/throat specimens or flocked polyester swabs. Cotton swabs are not acceptable. Swabs should be placed in 2ml of standard viral transport medium and should not be allowed to dry out. Ream the swab around the rim of the tube to retain cells and fluid in the tube. The swab should be broken off and left in the tube.



Immediately after collection, throat and nasopharyngeal swab specimens can be refrigerated at 2-8°C for up to 72 hours. After 72 hours, these specimens should be frozen at -20°C or lower and shipped on dry ice

# Test Request Form

Completely fill out the New Mexico Scientific Laboratory (SLD) [General Clinical Request Form](#) with:

- Submitter name and address
- Patient name, Gender, DOB
- Clinician name and phone number
- Date/time collected
- Indicate specimen source (nasopharyngeal or throat swab)
- **Label tube with patient name and DOB, unlabeled specimens will be rejected**
- Indicate test request in lower right-hand corner (Other/Measles PCR)

## Ship

**VIRROLOGY**

2019 Novel Coronavirus RT-PCR

Influenza RT-PCR  
(Per Epidemiology Guidance)

Virus Isolation  
Agent(s) suspected:  
\_\_\_ Influenza  
\_\_\_ HSV  
\_\_\_ Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Rapid Test: Pos \_\_\_ Neg \_\_\_  
Not Performed \_\_\_

Dengue/Chikungunya PCR

Ebola PCR

Other: **Measles PCR**  
(ERD only)

Phone #s: General Microbiology

Method of shipment will depend on your facility location and existing laboratory courier arrangements. NMDOH will work with facility to provide instructions for shipping approved specimens to SLD.

[Collection kits](#) can be ordered from SLD by contacting the kit preparation unit at 505-383-9068.

Find more information and measles updates at our website [measles.doh.nm.gov](https://measles.doh.nm.gov)