

DATE:	07 Apr 2025 – Updated 23 May 2025
TO:	All Zones: Physicians, Virtual MD, Nurses, Pharmacists, Public Health (CDC), HealthLink, Mobile Integrated Healthcare, All Healthcare Providers
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories-Community and Hospital Laboratory Services
RE:	Measles Specimen Collection Pathway – Updated 23 May 2025

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- To protect the public and staff while ensuring access to laboratory services for all Albertans, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL), in collaboration with Alberta Health Services Public Health, has developed defined specimen collection pathways for all measles testing. **The specimen collection pathway document has been updated as of May 23, 2025.**

Background

- Depending on the clinical need (e.g., asymptomatic Measles IgG immunity testing of non-exposed or exposed individuals/groups vs. symptomatic IgM and/or NAT/PCR diagnostic testing of measles) and the patient's community setting, specimen collection is required at designated locations and times.
- Only urine and blood specimens can be collected by APL.

How this will impact you

- You are now required to follow the appropriate specimen collection pathway when arranging all measles testing.

Action Required

- Familiarize yourself with and follow *Measles Specimen Collection Pathway* [Measles Specimen Collection Pathways](#) when arranging for specimen collection.
- Booking through the APL patient appointment line 1-877-702-4486 is essential to ensure appropriate and safe access to measles testing.**
- Refer to the [Laboratory Testing for Suspected Measles](#) Laboratory Bulletin for additional guidance on measles testing.

Effective **Immediately**

Questions/Concerns

- Dr. Peet van der Walt, Associate Medical Director, Community Services, North Sector, APL
- Dr. Graham Tipples, Medical-Scientific Director, Public Health Laboratory, APL

Approved by

- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Interim Chief Medical Laboratory Officer, APL