



**ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Division of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention
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Specific Requirements for Serum and Urine Submittal to the Public Health Laboratory

Update: 6/21/2017

The California Virus and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) offers testing for Zika virus infection by way of detection of immunoglobulin M (IgM) and also direct detection of the Zika virus by Real Time Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR).

Guidance:

Guidance for submission of specimens for Zika virus infection testing are provided by the VRDL at the following URL:

https://archive.cdph.ca.gov/programs/vrdl/Documents/Zika_Testing_VRDL_Quicksheet.pdf

Storage and Transport:

This guidance indicates that all specimens to be tested must be submitted to the local public health laboratory (Alameda County Public Health Laboratory (ACPHL)).

1. For antibody (IgM) testing, please collect and submit at least 2 ml of serum (5-10 ml of blood) in a red top or serum separator tube.
2. For RT-PCR testing, serum and urine are acceptable. Please collect and submit at least 2 ml of serum (5-10 ml of blood) in a red top or serum separator tube and/or at least 3 ml of urine in a sterile container.
3. Collected specimens should be stored cold (2-8°C).
4. Ship all specimens (serum or urine) on cold packs within 24-72 hours of collection.
5. For shipping of tissue, please consult with ACPHL at 510-382-4300.

Shipping address:

Alameda County Public Health Laboratory
2901 Peralta Oaks Ct. Second Floor
Oakland, CA 94605

Specimens can only be received at the above address Monday-Friday between 0830 and 1630