Should I Test For Measles?

A Guide for California Healthcare Providers

While suspecting measles in your patient, immediately mask and isolate the patient per airborne precautions.*

In the 21 days prior to onset of illness, has patient had any of the following?

- Known exposure to a person with measles?
- International travel, contact with an international traveler, or been to an international airport in the US?
- Visited a venue popular with international visitors?
- Resided in or visited a US community with measles cases?
 Current listings at bit.ly/2JqBbMW

If NO to all, measles very unlikely, testing not required.



If YES to any, continue

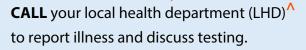
Has the patient had a combination of ...?

- FEVER
- And one or more of: COUGH, CONJUNCTIVITIS, or RUNNY NOSE
- And RASH[†]
- Red-brown macules or papules may become confluent patches
- Begins on face and progresses downwards to the rest of the body
- Typically appears within a few days after other symptoms begin

 If no rash within 4 days after onset of illness, you may consult your local health department.



If YES



COLLECT specimens for PCR testing.

- Urine (10-50 ml in sterile container) AND
- Dacron swab of throat (preferred) or nasopharynx in viral transport medium



Measles unlikely, testing not required.

As needed, call your local health department for consultation.

^LHD contact information: bit.ly/LHD-Reporting. For Orange County: 714-834-8180

†Immunization in last month with MMR or MMRV can be a cause of measles-like rash - check immunization history. Testing is not indicated if immunized against measles in last month and answer is no to all questions in Step 1.





^{*}Place patient in a negative pressure room when available; if not, examine the patient outside the facility or in a private room with the door closed; minimize the time patient spends in the facility. Other precautions apply.