

Indiana Department of Health laboratory: Specimen Transport Requirements



Sample Type	Assay	Temperature/transit time requirements	Notes
Serology - Serum specimens ONLY			
HIV	HIV Ag/Ab combo	≤ 7 days at 15-30°C ≤ 7 days at 2°-8°C $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for longer	
Hep C	Anti- HCV	≤ 7 days at 15-30°C ≤ 7 days at 2°-8°C $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for longer	
	HCV RNA	≤ 24 hours at 2-30°C ≤ 5 days at 2°-8°C -70°C to -20°C for up to 60 days	
Hep B	Anti- HBc (CORE)	≤ 7 days at 2°-8°C $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for longer	
	Anti-HBc Igm (CORE-IgM)		
	Anti-HBs (AUSAB)		
	HBsAg	≤ 24 hours at 15-30°C ≤ 6 days at 2°-8°C $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for longer	
	HBsAg Confirmatory		

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Hep A	HAVAB-M	≤ 3 days at 2°-30°C ≤ 7 days at 2°-8°C $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for longer	
Syphilis	RPR/EIA	≤ 5 days at 15-30°C ≤ 5 days at 2°-8°C $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for longer	
Mumps (Must be pre-approved by IDOH Epidemiology)	Wampole Mumps IgG ELISA II	≤ 48 hours at 2°-8°C $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for longer	
Measles (Must be pre-approved by IDOH Epidemiology)	Measles IgM or IgG	≤ 2 days at 2°-8°C $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for longer	
WNV, EEE, SLE, etc.	Arbovirus IgM or IgG Indirect Immunofluorescence Antibody	≤ 5 days at 2°-8°C $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for longer	
	West Nile Virus IgG or IgM ELISA	≤ 48 hours at 2°-8°C $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for longer	

Chlamydia/Gonorrhea			
CT/GC	CT/GC	4°-30°C	



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Mycobacteria (TB)			
QuantiFERON	≤ 12 hrs	17-25°C	
	≤ 48 hrs	2-8°C	
Sputa	Any	2-8°C	
TB Isolates	Any	Any temp	

Reference Bacteriology/Antimicrobial Resistance			
Isolates	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	> 0°C	
	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>		
	<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>		
	CRE/CRPA/CRAB		
	<i>Staphylococcus</i> (VRSA)		
	<i>Candida</i> spp.		





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Enterics			
Isolates	<i>Aeromonas, Plesiomonas</i>	>0°C	
	<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>		
	<i>Listeria</i>		
	<i>E. coli, Salmonella, Shigella</i>		
	<i>Campylobacter</i>		
Stool	<i>Bacillus cereus, Clostridium perfringens, Staph aureus</i>	2-8°C	
	<i>E. coli, Salmonella</i>		
	<i>Vibrio</i>		
	<i>Campylobacter</i>		
	<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>		
	<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>		
	Norovirus		
	<i>Aeromonas, Plesiomonas</i>	2-8°C	Must be received within 2 hours
Stool	BioFire	2-8°C	

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Virology			
Adenovirus	Adenovirus (≤ 5 days)	2-8°C	
Flu	Flu subtyping PCR, Pyrosequencing (≤ 3 days)	2-8°C	
	Influenza subtyping PCR, Pyrosequencing (> 3 days old)	$\leq -70^{\circ}\text{C}$	must be on dry ice
	CDC Flu-SC2 multiplex (≤ 3 days)	2-8°C	
	CDC Flu-SC2 multiplex (> 3 days old)	$\leq -70^{\circ}\text{C}$	must be on dry ice
Mumps (Must be pre-approved by IDOH Epidemiology)	Mumps PCR (≤ 5 days old)	2-8°C	
	Mumps PCR (> 5 days old)	$< -65^{\circ}\text{C}$	must be on dry ice
Measles (Must be pre-approved by IDOH Epidemiology)	Measles PCR (≤ 5 days old)	2-8°C	
	Measles PCR (> 5 days old)	-65°C to -75°C	must be on dry ice
Herpes (HSV)	HSV PCR (≤ 7 days)	2-8°C or Frozen ($< 0^{\circ}\text{C}$)	
	HSV PCR (> 7 days)	$< -70^{\circ}\text{C}$	must be on dry ice
VZV	VZV PCR (≤ 7 days)	2-8°C or Frozen ($< 0^{\circ}\text{C}$)	
	VZV PCR (> 7 days)	$< -70^{\circ}\text{C}$	must be on dry ice



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BioFire (Must be pre-approved by IDOH Epidemiology)	BioFire Resp Panel 2.1 (≤ 4 hrs)	15-25°C	
	BioFire Resp Panel 2.1 (≤ 3 days)	2-8°C	
	BioFire Resp Panel 2.1 (> 3 days)	Frozen $\leq -15^{\circ}\text{C}$	must be on dry ice
Zika, Dengue, Chikungunya (Must be pre-approved by IDOH Epidemiology)	Triplex RT-PCR (human serum, urine, CSF and amniotic fluid)	2-8°C or Frozen ($<0^{\circ}\text{C}$)	on cold packs
	Triplex RT-PCR (human whole blood)	2-8°C	on cold packs
Metapneumovirus	≤ 5 days old	-70°C to 8°C	
	> 5 days old	-65°C to -75°C	
Enterovirus	≤ 5 days old	2-8°C	
	> 5 days old	-65°C to -75°C	
COVID-19	Flu-CoV Multiplex (≤ 5 days old)	2-8°C	on cold packs
	Flu-CoV Multiplex (> 5 days old)	$< -70^{\circ}\text{C}$	must be on dry ice



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Clinical Chemistry			
Blood Lead	Blood Lead on filter paper	2-40°C	
	Blood Lead in capillary tubes		
Chemical Threat	Volatile Organic Chemicals by HeadSpace/GC/MSD	2-8°C	
	Cyanide in Blood by Headspace GC-MSD		
	Blood Metals		
Chemical Threat	Nerve Agent metabolites in urine	Frozen (Dry ice)	must be on dry ice
	Abrine/Ricinine		
	HNPPA		
	Urine Metals		
	Mercury in Urine		
	Lewisite Metabolite (CVAA) in Urine		
	Tetramine		



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Biothreat			
<i>Bacillus anthracis</i>	Culture - clinical	Non-frozen, viability will be checked for all non-frozen isolates	
	PCR		
<i>Clostridium botulinum</i>	Culture	Non-frozen, viability will be checked for all non-frozen isolates	
	PCR		
	Blood Serum, Stool, Vomitus	2 - 8°C	
	Food	Store and ship in the same manner the food was found	
<i>Brucella</i>	Culture	Non-frozen, viability will be checked for all non-frozen isolates	
	PCR		
<i>Burkholderia</i>	Culture	Non-frozen, viability will be checked for all non-frozen isolates	
	PCR		
Ebola	Whole blood	2-8°C	
	Serum, plasma and urine	≤ -70°C	
MERS-CoV	PCR (≤ 72 hrs)	2-8°C	
	PCR (> 72 hrs)	≤ -70°C	Specimens should be shipped on dry ice.



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<i>Francisella tularensis</i>	Culture	Non-frozen, viability will be checked for all non-frozen isolates	
	PCR		
<i>Yersinia pestis</i>	Culture	Non-frozen, viability will be checked for all non-frozen isolates	
	PCR		
Non-Variola Orthopoxvirus	PCR - dry swabs only	Freeze (-20°C or lower) or refrigerate (2-8°C) specimens	

NOTE: IDOHL may have additional testing capabilities not included in this guide. IDOHL may use reference laboratories for testing that may include tests and specimens not included in this list. For additional testing options, please call the IDOH Laboratory at 317-921-5500.

