

Mpox Testing Instructions

All testing must be approved by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) before testing can be performed at DCLS. Please contact your local Health Department for consultation.

DCLS TESTING:

TESTING		SAMPLE		TEMPERATURE	
Type / Tier / Agents Detected	TAT	Type	Collection	Storage	Transport/Receipt
Poxvirus Real Time PCR Tests (Tier 1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-variola Orthopoxvirus (VAC) Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV) RNase P (human DNA internal control) 	Same day [¥] (Mon. – Fri.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dry lesion swabs^{¥¥} Synthetic swabs (nylon, polyester, Dacron) <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Cotton swabs are not accepted</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple body sites Paired (x2) swabs per body site <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Label body site on each sample tube</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refrigerate within 1 hour of collection Store refrigerated up to 7 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport to DCLS w/in 7 days of collection Samples must be received at 2-8°C <p style="text-align: center;">Samples received outside of temperature range will be <u>REJECTED</u></p>
Mpox Clade Real Time PCR Tests (Tier 2)*: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mpox virus Mpox virus - Clade Ia** Mpox virus - Clade II RNase P (human DNA internal control) 	Within 2 business days of tier 1 testing				

* **NOTE:** VAC PCR-positive samples are reflexed to Mpox Clade testing. Clade testing is prioritized as Tier 1 for clade-specific outbreaks/investigations.

** **NOTE:** Clade Ib testing will require a combination of VAC **and** Mpox Clade Real Time PCR testing.

[¥] **NOTE:** High-priority cases can be tested outside of normal business hours upon Epi request.

^{¥¥} **NOTE:** Swabs for specimen collection can be provided by the DCLS Kits Department at DCLS_SSSKits@dgs.virginia.gov.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

- Include a completed DCLS Test Request Form (#16857) for each patient to be tested. **It is imperative that the following data accompany specimens submitted:**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Complete submitter information 2) Patient name and date of birth 3) <u>Body site(s) swabbed</u> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) Date and Time of collection 5) Symptoms and Onset date 6) Indicate <u>Mpox testing</u> for “Other” testing |
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SUBMISSION NOTES:

- Samples submitted for Mpox testing **CANNOT** be submitted via Web Vision. Routine DCLS coolers can be used for submission.
- Samples submitted for Mpox testing **SHOULD NOT** be placed in the same cooler with other specimens submitted for testing at DCLS.
- **Package specimens on adequate ice packs to maintain 2-8°C temperature and send via routine DCLS courier.**
- Additional courier arrangements can be provided, as needed.

RESULTS / REPORTING:

AGENT	RESULTS*	AFTER-ACTIONS
Non-variola Orthopoxvirus	Positive (DNA Detected)	Actionable result; Clade testing is performed
	Negative DNA not detected)	Final , no additional testing needed
	Inconclusive (Internal control failure)	Insufficient human DNA; Recollection advised
Varicella Zoster Virus	Positive (DNA Detected) / Negative (DNA not detected)	Final , no additional testing needed
	Inconclusive (Internal control failure)	Insufficient human DNA; Recollection advised
Mpox Clade I / Mpox Clade II	Positive (DNA Detected)	Final , no additional testing needed
	Negative (DNA not Detected) **	Consultation with the CDC ; Send duplicate swabs to CDC
	Inconclusive (Internal control failure)	Insufficient human DNA; Recollection advised

*NOTE: Verbal reporting of results will be provided to the listed submitter. All reports will be issued within 1-2 business days after test completion.

**NOTE: VAC PCR-positive + Clade I PCR-negative results are indicative of Mpox Clade 1b. Further testing at the CDC is required.

Points of Contact (DCLS):

- DCLS Emergency Number (24/7): 804-335-4617
- Dr. LaToya Griffin-Thomas (Biothreat/Special Pathogens Lead Scientist): 804-648-4480, x281
- Destiny Hairfield (Biothreat Response Principal Scientist): 804-648-4480, x154
- Dr. Neeti Dahal (Biothreat Response Group Manager): 804-648-4480, x410
- Terri Harper (Specimen Transport): 804-648-4480, x140

REFERENCES:

DCLS Mpox Testing Instructions: https://dgs.virginia.gov/globalassets/business-units/dcls/documents/hot-topic-and-updates/monkeypox-testing-instructions_faq-44840-1.pdf

DCLS Test Request Form: <https://dgs.virginia.gov/globalassets/document-center/dcls-forms/dcls-test-request-form-168572.pdf>

Virginia Department of Health (VDH) - Health Department Locator: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/health-department-locator/>