

<b>Update to measles PCR ordering 3.20.2024</b>	
<i>What?</i>	Ohio Department of Health (ODH) now requires local health departments to approve need for measles testing before processing PCRs.
<i>So what?</i>	This additional requirements may help decrease unnecessary testing in children who have a low likelihood of active measles but also could limit prompt diagnosis of measles cases.
<i>Now what?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notify CCHMC Infection Prevention &amp; Control on-call when ordering measles PCR testing. They will contact the local health department and include clinical information for prompt approval of testing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent practices may call their local health department directly.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Providers should have relevant clinical information for patient at the time of IP&amp;C notification such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical criteria: Generalized rash AND fever AND cough, coryza, and/or conjunctivitis</li> <li>• Patient exposures and vaccine status</li> <li>• Provider contact information available for public health if they have additional questions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• If the test has already been obtained, the lab can store it until they receive notification by public health that is approved for transport and processing.</li> </ul>

**Continue to be aware of potential measles cases in our area. Ensure to order the appropriate testing and isolation when ruling out a case.**

- Please continue to be alert for cases of measles in your areas in response to the 2/2/24 Montgomery County measles cluster and the Disney on Ice exposure on 3/8.
  - Remember, if the patient is vaccinated, measles is a highly unlikely diagnosis!
  - Many unvaccinated children who have a fever and rash will not have measles; assess for alternative diagnoses if measles is epidemiologically unlikely.
  - Do not refer patients to the ED or urgent care for testing only.
  - If a patient needs to be referred for testing or clinical evaluation, notify the facility prior to the patient's arrival.
- Place patient in N-95 Airborne precautions right away if you suspect measles (airborne infection isolation room + N-95 respirator for providers). Measles is a Class A reportable illness requiring all suspected cases to be immediately reported to public health. If those resources are not available, place the patient in a private room and keep the door closed.
- Complete rule out testing for measles requires the following:
  - Notification of Infection Prevention & Control or the local health department directly (for independent practices). ODH is no longer accepting tests if patients do not meet

- clinical criteria for measles. Clinical criteria includes 1) a generalized rash AND 2) fever AND 3) cough, coryza, or conjunctivitis.
- Measles serologies (send out to ARUP)
    - Rubeola (Measles) IgG
    - Rubeola (Measles) IgM
    - Review specimen collection/storage/prep  
<https://www.testmenu.com/cincinnatichildrens/Tests/431925>
  - Measles PCR (Send out to ODH)
    - If ODH gets a positive result, the CDC reports to IN, KY or OH depending on the residency of the patient.
    - If an area in the hospital wants to collect a PCR sample for measles, they can call Send Outs (513-636-3061) M-F 6:00AM-6:30 PM or Lab Support (513-636-6165) is available 24/7.
      - For community providers: Can call ODH Emergency Response (614-722-7221) if unsure of next steps.
    - Ordering person would request:
      - Viral transport media
      - Dacron tipped swab
      - Ice Pack
    - Ordering Instructions:
      - Order as an “Unlisted Lab”:
        - Test Name : Measles PCR ODH
        - Specimen type needed: Nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal
        - Container type needed for collection: Viral transport media container
        - Enter special instructions (i.e. name and address of lab to perform tests if not CCHMC) : -70 storage
      - Review specimen collection/storage/prep: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/microbiology/resources/measles-virus>