



# Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



## Measles Testing

In 2025, there have been no confirmed cases of measles in Durham Region. Accurate and appropriate collection of measles specimens is important for timely detection. Please follow the below information to test for suspect measles, or see the Measles Case and Contact Information Hub ([durham.ca/measles](https://durham.ca/measles)).

### Testing

Primary care providers are encouraged to test clinically stable patients in their offices with appropriate IPAC precautions. Only send patients to a hospital emergency department if clinically indicated and after calling ahead, to minimize high risk contacts in hospital settings.

If your patient presents with compatible symptoms (fever, cough, conjunctivitis, rash) and risk factors (recent travel to high-risk area where measles is circulating including within Ontario), collect the following **3 samples** within 7 days of rash onset and send **separately** from routine specimens:

1. Throat swab or Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab diagnostic PCR
2. Urine diagnostic PCR
3. Measles serology (IgG and IgM)

Mark "**suspect measles**" on each of the lab requisitions. Mark **STAT** on the outside of the package.

Contact Durham Region Health Department (905-668-2020 **ext. 2996** or 1-800-841-2729 **ext. 2996**; after hours 905-576-9991 or 1-800-372-1104) to arrange specimen transport to Public Health Ontario Laboratory.

If you are unsure how to test or are unable to test in your office, please call a public health nurse at 905-668-2020 **ext. 2996** or 1-800-841-2729 **ext. 2996** for guidance.

### More Information

- [Measles Case and Contact Information Hub](https://durham.ca/measles) – (or [durham.ca/measles](https://durham.ca/measles))
- [Information about Measles for HCP](https://durham.ca/HCP) – (or [durham.ca/HCP](https://durham.ca/HCP))
- [Measles: Information for Health Care Providers](#) – Public Health Ontario
- [PHOL Test Information Index](#) – Public Health Ontario Laboratory

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905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | [durham.ca/health](https://durham.ca/health)

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

