



## New PCR Test for Detection of Measles Virus

Date: November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

---

Outbreaks of Measles continue to be documented around the U.S, including New York State. As an aid to diagnosing acute measles infection, UR Medicine Labs has developed an in-house PCR test for detection of measles virus. The preferred specimen for this assay is a Nasopharyngeal (NP) specimen collected with a flocked swab as soon as possible after rash onset and submitted in viral transport media (VTM). Although less sensitive, 10-50 ml voided urine collected as soon as possible after rash onset may be submitted in a sterile cup for testing. Ideally, specimens should be collected within 3 days of rash onset, however, specimens can be obtained up to 7 days, but not more than 10 days, after rash onset. This in-house assay is currently performed on day shift Monday through Friday.

For further information refer to [Rochester Test Directory | Home](#)

Note: Throat or oropharyngeal specimens will be sent to a reference lab with a longer turn-around time.

For any questions, please contact:

**Dwight J. Hardy, Ph.D.**

Director, Clinical Microbiology

UR Medicine Labs

Professor of Microbiology and Immunology,

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

University of Rochester Medical Center

Phone: (585) 275-1408

[Dwight\\_Hardy@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Dwight_Hardy@urmc.rochester.edu)