

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTION & SUBMISSION OF SAMPLES
FOR HIV DIRECT DETECTION**

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

www.Michigan.gov/mdchlab

IMPORTANT: If the specimen container is received leaking, not properly labeled, test requisition not completed, or specimen label does not match test requisition, the specimen will not be tested!

I Things you need to know!

IMPORTANT: Notify the Virology laboratory when the specimen is sent and the method of shipment at 517-335-8067.

Specimens less than 24 hours old will be accepted Monday through noon Friday.

Specimens older than 24 hours are unacceptable for testing.

Infants with negative results at 48 hours should be retested at 14 days, 1-2 months, and again at 3-6 months (if results remain negative).

The first specimen should be collected at 48 hours after birth. For ages older than 3 years, forward sample to HIV Serology for EIA testing.

II Collection of Specimen (s)

1. Prior to blood collection from an infant born to an HIV sero-positive mother, contact the Virology laboratory at 517-335-8067.
2. Collect one EDTA tube (2 mL draw) via venipuncture .
3. After collection, keep the specimen at room temperature. **DO NOT REFRIGERATE, FREEZE OR CENTRIFUGE THE SPECIMEN.**

III Submission of Specimen(s)

1. Label tube(s) with the same name/unique identifier used on test requisition.
2. Record the name/unique identifier on the tube/requisition for your records. You will use it to link the specimen to the patient.
3. When ready to ship, place properly labeled tube(s) **wrapped in absorbent material provided** into aluminum screw-capped can and tighten the cap.
4. Place aluminum can with **completed** test requisition on the **outside** of the container into screw-capped cardboard container and **secure tightened cap with tape**.
5. **Complete** and apply the return shipping, Biological Substance label to cardboard container.
6. The specimen(s) must be sent to MDCH by courier (to be received in our laboratory by 2:00 P.M. the same day) or by Overnight Express to be received in our laboratory by 11:00 A.M. on the following day.

NOTE: The shipper is responsible for being sure that their package is in compliance with the current shipping regulations.

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