

## **CDC Infectious Diseases Laboratory Services**

The CDC accepts specimens from state public health laboratories and other federal agencies for analysis. Specimens from private healthcare providers and institutions must be submitted to the local state health department laboratory (state, county, city) for appropriate processing.

Specimen Management activities at CDC include the receipt, categorization, and distribution of specimens from public health facilities to CDC laboratories for reference diagnostic testing and research studies. State-of-the-art technology is used to provide data and information summaries that are crucial in the assessment of public health trends and epidemic dynamics on a national scale.

CDC's Infectious Diseases Laboratories provides an online Test Directory that allows you to identify the right test for your needs. The searchable Test Directory features an up-to-date list of orderable tests and provides information on specimen requirements, contact information, test turnaround times, and other supplemental information. The test directory can be accessed at: <http://www.cdc.gov/laboratory/specimen-submission/list.html>. Specimens submitted for testing must be accompanied by CDC Form 50.34 found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/laboratory/specimen-submission/pdf/form-50-34.pdf>.

For shipping and packing instructions visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/laboratory/specimen-submission/shipping-packing.html>.

Additional help and FAQ's on submitting specimens to CDC laboratories can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/laboratory/specimen-submission/help-faqs.html>.

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