

MPOX

(formerly Monkeypox
Virus)

Orderable – MPOX

Turnaround Time: 2 calendar days from receipt at testing lab

Individuals with compatible clinical and exposure history should be tested.

Specimen Type and Collection Information:

Please review the Public Health Ontario Laboratory Test Information Index:
[Monkeypox Virus](#)

Specimen Type	Minimum Volume	Collection Kit
Lesion fluid, crust material or scab*	NA	Sterile tube / viral transport media
Swab of lesion*	Swab samples can be collected as a dry swab	Sterile tube / viral transport media (1ml)
Nasopharyngeal and/or throat swab**	Particularly useful if testing during the prodrome. May be collected on all patients.	Viral transport media
Serum**	≥0.5 ml should be submitted on all febrile patients	Red top or serum separator tubes
CSF	≥0.5 ml may be submitted on encephalitic patients	Sterile tube / container

***Submit a maximum of three skin lesion specimens per patient**

**Nasopharyngeal/throat swabs and blood specimens are not recommended in patients who have skin lesions that can be swabbed or have lesion materials that can be submitted for testing, both should be submitted in suspected patients who do not have a skin rash



Laboratory:
Microbiology



Requisition:
[PUBLIC HEALTH ONTARIO
LABORATORY TEST
REQUISITION](#)

Completed PHOL
requisition MUST
accompany the specimen



Method of Analysis:
PCR



Test Schedule:
Daily



Referred to:
Public Health Ontario
Laboratory
1200 Commissioners Rd E
London, Ontario
519-455-9310

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Critical Information Required:

Ensure the Public Health Ontario Laboratory Requisition for **ALL samples submitted indicates that the patient is suspected of having monkeypox.**

The requisition should include:

- Onset date
- Symptoms
- Relevant travel/exposure history

Special Processing:

Diagnostic primary specimens (e.g. skin lesion swabs/scrapings, blood, plasma, body fluids, respiratory specimens, urine, feces/rectal swabs and tissues) can be processed following routine practices and universal precautions.

Samples will be tested by nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT) at the Public Health Ontario Laboratory.

Storage and Shipment:

Patient specimens from suspected Monkeypox cases require Category B packaging (TDG regulations) using the temporary certificate TU 0886.

The specimens must be refrigerated and must be received within 24 hours of collection.