



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & WELFARE

BUREAU OF LABORATORIES

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IDAHO SENTINEL LABORATORY NETWORK UPDATE

November 18, 2014

IDAHO BUREAU OF LABORATORIES APPROVED TO PERFORM EBOLA TESTING

Idaho Bureau of Laboratories (IBL) is now approved to perform testing on suspected Ebola virus disease (EVD) samples using the DoD EZ1 Real Time RT-PCR assay.

Clinicians must contact Idaho Division of Public Health, Bureau of Communicable Disease Prevention (BCDP) with all suspected Ebola virus disease (EVD) cases **prior** to sample collection. During business hours, call 208-334-5939. After business hours, call 800-632-8000, and a public health official will be immediately contacted to assist you. If samples are required, your hospital will be asked to collect two 4mL whole blood specimens in plastic blood tubes preserved with EDTA. One will be sent to IBL for RT-PCR testing and the other will be sent to CDC. Samples must be shipped Category A and labeled on the exterior packaging and Shipper's Declaration form as "Suspected Category A Infectious Substance." IBL is willing to provide shipping assistance and support, if necessary.

IBL appreciates your rapid response in completing the *Survey to Assess Category A Shipping* and is in the process of analyzing those results to ensure that shipping needs are met statewide.

Contact the Idaho Bureau of Laboratories with any laboratory-related EVD questions: Robert Voermans (voermanr@dhw.idaho.gov or 208-334-2235 ext. 255) or Michael Stevenson (stevensm@dhw.idaho.gov or 208-334-2235 ext. 269). After hours, please call 800-632-8000 and ask to speak to a public health lab representative.

Message Categories

Lab Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Lab Advisory: important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Lab Update: updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.