



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE  
**DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Test Title	<i>Orthopox Viruses (Including Smallpox)</i>
<b>Sample Requirements</b>	1. Specimen type: See Table 1 below for full listing of specimen types, requirements, special instructions and rejection criteria.
<b>Sampling Materials</b>	1. Sample container: See Table 1 below.
<b>Procedural Notes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <a href="#">Clinical Test Request Form</a> for submitting clinical samples</li><li>2. <a href="#">Biological Threat Food/Environmental Test Request Form</a> for submitting food, water or environmental samples</li><li>3. For all samples suspected of containing a biological threat agent, contact the IBL Microbiology Section <u>before</u> sample collection and/or submission. TEL: 208-334-2235</li><li>4. See Table 1 below for sample specific procedural notes.</li></ol>
<b>Shipping Instructions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Temperature/preservative instructions: If transported within 24 hours of collection, package specimens from a single patient on refrigerated (2-8°C) gel packs. If specimens will be transported after 24 hours of collection, all samples (except as noted below in Table 1) should be stored on dry ice or at -20°C to -70°C.</li><li>2. Package and ship according to Biological Substance, Category B shipping guidelines.</li><li>3. Ship to: Idaho Bureau of Laboratories <b>ATTN: LRN-B Laboratory</b> 2220 Old Penitentiary Rd Boise, ID 83712</li></ol>
<b>Reporting and Turnaround Time (TAT)</b>	1. TAT: 1-5 business days

Table 1. *Orthopox* Viruses Sampling Guidelines

Sample type	Sampling materials	Sample collection	Procedural notes	Sample rejection criteria
Vesicular material-skin or crust from roof of vesicle	Two sterile, plastic, dry, screw-capped containers	Use a 26-gauge needle to remove 2 to 4 scabs. Place 1 or 2 scabs in each tube.	Wrap parafilm around the juncture of the cap and vial.	Unlabeled or improperly packaged specimens that are leaking or otherwise compromised
Vesicular fluid Slide (touch prep) or EM grid	Clean plastic or glass microscope slides, or plastic coated electron microscope (EM) grid	Collect material from at least 2 lesions.	Ship at room temperature.	
Swabs of lesion	Sterile dry polyester (Dacron) or rayon -tipped swab; sterile screw-capped plastic vial	Swab the base of an un-roofed lesion and place in vial.	DO NOT add transport medium to the vial.	
Biopsy lesions	3.5 or 4 mm punch biopsy kit; sterile 1.5-2 mL screw-capped container without transport medium	Obtain at least two specimens: Place one in formalin and place the second in a sterile tube.		
Serum	10 cc red or red/gray marble topped serum separator tubes with clot activator	If possible, centrifuge specimen to separate serum from blood clot and send only serum.	Testing requires at least 1 ml of serum. Store and transport at 4°C.	
Postmortem tissue	Sterile, non-glass, leak-proof, container	All major organs should be sampled.	Autopsy specimens for virus isolation should be frozen (shipped with dry ice). Package formalin-fixed tissue separately from specimens for virus isolation. Ship at room temperature.	
Environmental, Food, or Water	Contact Idaho Bureau of Laboratories <u>before</u> sample collection or submission.			