Measles Real-Time RT-PCR

Description	Measles PCR is a laboratory-developed real-time reverse
Pre-Approval Required	Consultation and approval is required by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Immunization Program for measles laboratory testing. Immunization Program can be reached weekdays 7:30 am-5:00 pm by calling 213-351-7800.
Sunquest Test Code	Not applicable; This is a send-out test to the California State
Supplemental Information or Required Form(s)	Los Angeles County PHL Test Requisition California Department of Public Health – Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory Specimen Submittal Form
Acceptable Specimen Type(s)	Urine collected from the first part of urine stream submitted in sterile container. Throat or nasopharyngeal swab submitted in Viral Transport Medium (VTM) or Universal Transport Medium (UTM). Flocked swabs are preferred for specimen collection.
Minimum Volume Required	Urine: 50-100 mL
Storage/Transport Conditions	Specimens should be stored at 4-8 ⬚C. Each specimen should be submitted within its own biohazard specimen bag with absorbent material. Swab samples should be submitted on cold packs as soon as possible and within 24 hours of collection. If transit time is longer, freeze specimen and transport on dry ice.
Specimen Labeling and	Patient's name (Last, First), MRN, DOB, specimen type, date collected
Shipping Instructions and Specimen Handling Requirements	To schedule a courier during regular business hours M-F 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, contact Central Accessioning at (562) 658-1460. After hours call 213-974-1234 and ask for the Public Health Laboratory Director.
Test Methodology	Real-time RT-PCR
Turnaround Time	2-3 days after specimen receipt at the Public Health Laboratory

Reference Range	Not Detected
Additional Information	A negative result cannot rule out measles, particularly if the specimen is of poor quality or taken too late after illness onset. Viral culture may be performed by request.
CPT Code(s)	87798