



Laboratory Medicine Bulletin

NEW Monkeypox (hMPXV) Diagnostic Testing at PHC

August 11, 2022

Effective August 11th, 2022, Monkeypox (hMPXV) diagnostic testing will be performed at the SPH Virology Laboratory.

Test type: Nucleic acid amplification test (NAT) for detection of monkeypox virus DNA

Test name: Monkeypox NAT

Turn around time: Within 24 hours after receipt of the sample, Monday to Friday.

Sample Types and Collection Containers: Please see Aug 2022 Technical Bulletin

Collection and Shipping Requirements: Deliver to the PHC laboratory promptly (<2 hours) or keep refrigerated/send on ice pack.

Performance Characteristics: This assay was cross-validated with the laboratory-developed monkeypox NAT assay currently in use at the BCCDC Public Health Laboratory:

- Positive percent agreement: 100%
- Negative percent agreement: 100%

Ordering: At PHC, providers can order hMPXV testing using Cerner PowerChart:

- Select "**Adult Genital Lesion, Skin, Vesicle NAT**" and type "Monkeypox" in the 'Other' field
- Later this month, "**Monkeypox NAT**" will be available in PowerChart and can be ordered directly

Approval by the Medical Microbiologist is **NOT** required for testing.

Providers should report probable or confirmed hMPXV cases to their local Public Health unit. Case definitions and further management guidance is provided by [Vancouver Coastal Health \(VCH\) Public Health](#).