









Measles Tests

When to Collect?

Acute Disease	PCR	Nasopharyngeal (NP) or Throat (OP) Swab 	As soon as possible upon suspicion of measles: ideally 0-3 days after rash onset, up to 10 days after rash onset.
	PCR	Urine 	Within 10 days of rash onset <i>*Collecting a urine specimen along with an NP/OP swab may improve test sensitivity, especially if at the end of the PCR detection window.</i>
	IgM	Serum 	Collect with specimen for PCR. Can be negative up to 3 days after rash onset. IgM can be detected for 6-8 weeks after acute measles.
Immunity	IgG	Serum 	When assessing evidence of immunity, can be detected ~2 weeks after MMR vaccination





Mumps Tests

When to Collect?

Acute Disease	PCR	Buccal Swab (Requires Parotid Massage) 	As soon as possible upon suspicion of mumps: ideally 0-3 days after parotitis onset, up to 10 days after parotitis onset.
	PCR	Urine 	Within 10 days of symptom onset <i>*Appropriate when patients have orchitis and not parotitis</i>
	IgM	Serum 	Most sensitive within 3-14 days of parotitis onset
Immunity	IgG	Serum 	When assessing evidence of immunity, can be detected ~2 weeks after MMR vaccination



Rubella Tests

When to Collect?

Acute Disease	PCR	Nasopharyngeal (NP) or Throat (OP) Swab		As soon as possible upon suspicion of rubella. Specimen should be ideally collected 0-3 days after rash onset, up to 7 days after rash onset.
	PCR	Urine		Within 7 days of rash onset <i>*Collecting a urine specimen along with an NP/OP swab may improve test sensitivity, especially if at the end of the RT-PCR detection window.</i>
	IgM	Serum		Most sensitive 4+ days after rash onset. IgM can be detected for 30 days after acute rubella.
Immunity	IgG	Serum		When assessing evidence of immunity, can be detected ~ 2 weeks after MMR vaccination

Varicella Tests

When to Collect?

Acute Disease	PCR	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Material from vesicles or scabs Scrapings of maculopapular lesions 		<p>Rash present: Vesicular swabs or scrapings if vesicles are present. If no vesicles, scrapings of maculopapular lesions obtained by abrading the lesion with a slide.</p> <p>Rash has resolved: Scabs from crusted lesions, are also excellent samples for PCR detection of VZV DNA.</p>
	IgG	Serum		After acute illness (3 or more weeks after rash onset)