



Health Advisory: Mumps Testing in Minnesota (#1479076)

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Action Steps:

Local and tribal health departments: Please forward to clinics, urgent care centers, convenience clinics and hospitals in your jurisdiction.

Hospital and clinics: Please distribute to healthcare providers.

Healthcare providers:

- Consider mumps in patients presenting with acute parotitis or other salivary gland swelling for greater than 2 days
- Report suspect cases of mumps to MDH via telephone while the patient is still in the office
- Submit specimens with forms to MDH for PCR testing – preferred specimen is a buccal swab collected within 5 days of symptom onset
- Perform serologic testing through your usual lab for IgM and IgG

A recent outbreak of mumps in the Minnesota Wild brought attention to the fact that cases of mumps may be undiagnosed in Minnesota every year. There has been an increase in suspect cases being reported though many of the specimens submitted to MDH PHL were collected too long after symptom onset or included incomplete forms, further delaying accurate mumps diagnoses. Confirming a mumps diagnosis does not change treatment, which is supportive, but it can impact exclusion recommendations. Mumps cases should be excluded from school, work or other activities for 5 days after onset of symptoms, so it is important to confirm the diagnosis before making or not making this recommendation.

Mumps can be confirmed with a positive PCR or culture result. Ruling out mumps in previously vaccinated individuals is challenging as viral shedding and IgM response are reduced, therefore negative PCR and IgM results may be falsely negative. Providers should also consider and test for other infectious and non-infectious etiologies that cause sporadic parotid gland swelling, such as

- Influenza A
- Parainfluenza virus types 1 and 3
- Coxsackie A virus
- Cytomegalovirus
- Epstein Barr virus
- Acute bacterial suppurative parotitis
- Drug reactions, allergies, tumors and immunologic diseases

For more information, call MDH at 651-201-5414 or 1-877-676-5414 or visit these websites:

Lab Testing for Mumps at the MDH Public Health Laboratory (PDF)

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/mumps/hcp/labtesting.pdf>

Fact sheet on reporting, testing, and specimen collection and submission to MDH

Mumps Clinical Information <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/mumps/hcp/clinical.html>

Symptoms, diagnosing, treatment, and prevention (vaccination).