

Testing Guide for Ebola Virus Disease

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Approval:

- Provincial Ebola Viral Disease Preparedness Task Group: 17-Sept-2014
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Consultations:

- EVD Clinical Care Sub-group
- EVD Laboratory Sub-group

Department of Health
Emergency Preparedness and Response Branch

Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Testing Guide

IMPORTANT

1. No laboratory tests should be ordered or samples drawn without prior consultation with the Regional Medical Officer of Health.
2. Laboratories must be alerted of any incoming specimens that may contain Ebola virus.
3. Such specimens should not be sent by pneumatic tube or similar systems but rather hand-carried in an appropriate container.

Primary Testing (can only be performed at the 7 facilities with a microbiology lab¹)

TEST	INDICATION	RESULT
Malaria testing- thin smear	All patients with suspected EVD – malaria remains most likely diagnosis in febrile patient from EVD affected countries.	
Blood cultures Preferably 2 sets from 2 sites, prior to antibiotic treatment Where possible, consult Infectious Disease Specialist prior to testing	Fever of unknown origin, suspicion of bacteremia or fungemia	

¹ Dr.-Georges-L.-Dumont University Hospital, Moncton City Hospital, Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital, Saint John Regional Hospital, Edmundston Regional Hospital, Campbellton Regional Hospital, Chaleur Regional Hospital.

Secondary Testing (can only be performed at EVD-designated Hospitals²)

TEST	INDICATION	RESULT
RT-PCR Antigen Detection for EVD	Confirmation of EVD Prepare and ship samples to National Microbiology Lab as directed (expect 24 to 48 hours for results)	
Other tests based on signs and symptoms, typically: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic hematology• Basic chemistry• Prothrombin/INR• Chest Radiograph (portable)	Testing required for monitoring intravascular volume status and electrolyte balance, oxygen status and blood pressure, treatment of secondary infections.	

² The Saint John Regional Hospital and the Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont University Hospital Centre will serve as the two Provincial EVD-designated Hospitals. EVD-designated Hospitals are equipped and trained to deliver testing services related to EVD in the areas of basic Chemistry, basic Hematology, Coagulation or Transfusion Medicine. They are also capable of packaging and shipping a sample according to ERAP protocols to the National Microbiology Laboratory for EVD testing, seven days per week.