

Test: Infant Botulism Testing by CDC

Specimen receiving: Specimens for **Infant Botulism testing** by CDC will be accepted from Monday thru Friday by 3:30 p.m., except on holidays.

Turn around Time: Varies

Specimen requirements: Call the Bacteriology-Parasitology Section at 453-6706 prior to submitting a specimen for botulism testing. Tell the lab person in the B-P Section that a specimen will be submitted for testing. The specimen should be submitted to the State Lab as soon as possible after collection.

Feces and rectal swabs are suitable materials for examination (it is not necessary to collect serum samples for infant botulism cases). Ideally, 10-20 grams of stool should be collected.

Specimens must be accompanied by CDC form 4.590 "Outbreak Investigation: Infant Botulism"

Specimens must be accompanied by an 81.3 State of Hawaii Laboratory submission form.

Specimen collection: The specimen must be in a leakproof sterile collection container, ideally, a urine collection container. The specimen container must be properly labeled with patient name.

Specimens should be maintained at 4°C and should be sent with cold packs to the laboratory.

Requisition form:

- All specimens must be submitted with a legible 81.3 request form
- Requisition form must have patient name or other unique identifier
- Name of test requested
- Date of collection
- Submitter name and address
- Name of responsible physician

Normal value: No botulinum toxin detected

The specimen will be forwarded to CDC as soon as time permits.

Result notification: CDC will notify the State Laboratory by phone if the result is positive.

The State Laboratory will notify the submitter by phone if the result is positive.

The State Laboratory will notify the Disease Investigation Branch if the result is positive.

Comments: Although preliminary toxin testing at CDC may be positive, additional tests to isolate the botulinum organism may be done along with possible animal inoculation studies. A final published result may take additional time.

Unacceptable conditions:

- Specimens leaking
- Quantity not sufficient for proper laboratory testing
- No accompanying forms, incomplete forms or illegible forms
- Specimens that have been left out at room temperature for long periods of time prior to submission.
- Specimen not labeled properly

Submission location: State of Hawaii Dept. of Health Laboratories
Medical Microbiology Branch
Bacteriology-Parasitology Section
2725 Waimano Home Road, 2nd. Floor
Pearl City, HI 96782
Phone: (808) 453-6706
Fax: (808) 453-6716

Testing location: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Botulism Outbreak Investigations Unit
1600 Clifton Road, NE
Atlanta, GA 30333
Phone: (404) 639-0896

Approved:



A. Christian Whelen, Ph.D.

Date: 8-18-2009

Date: August 13, 2009