



# CONSULTATION AND SPECIMEN INSTRUCTIONS

## SUSPECT EBOLA PATIENT

### CONSULTATION

Ebola testing should only be ordered and performed for patients who meet the criteria as defined by the CDC’s *Recommendations for Clinicians* (refer to <https://www.cdc.gov/han/php/notices/han00524.html>)

Before collecting specimens for Ebola testing, clinical laboratories must first contact the communicable disease group for the county where the patient resides. Afterward, the county health department must consult with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and finally, coordination with the testing laboratory.

### 1

<b>Alpine County Health Department.....</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>530-694-2235</b>
	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>530-694-2252</b>
<b>Amador County Health Department.....</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>209-223-6407</b>
	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>209-223-1562</b>
<b>Calaveras County Health Department.....</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>209-754-6460</b>
	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>209-754-1709</b>
<b>Mariposa County Health Department.....</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>209-966-3689</b>
	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>209-966-4929</b>
<b>Mono County Health Department.....</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>760-924-1830</b>
	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>760-924-1831</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Health Department.....</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>209-558-7000</b>
	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>209-558-7531</b>
<b>San Joaquin County Health Department.....</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>209-468-3411</b>
	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>209-468-3823</b>
<b>Tuolumne County Health Department.....</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>209-533-7403</b>
	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>209-533-7406</b>

### 2

- CDPH (contact either)**
1. CDPH Duty Officer: (916) 328-3605 (after hours)
  2. CDPH Infectious Disease Branch 510-620-3434 (business hours)

### 3

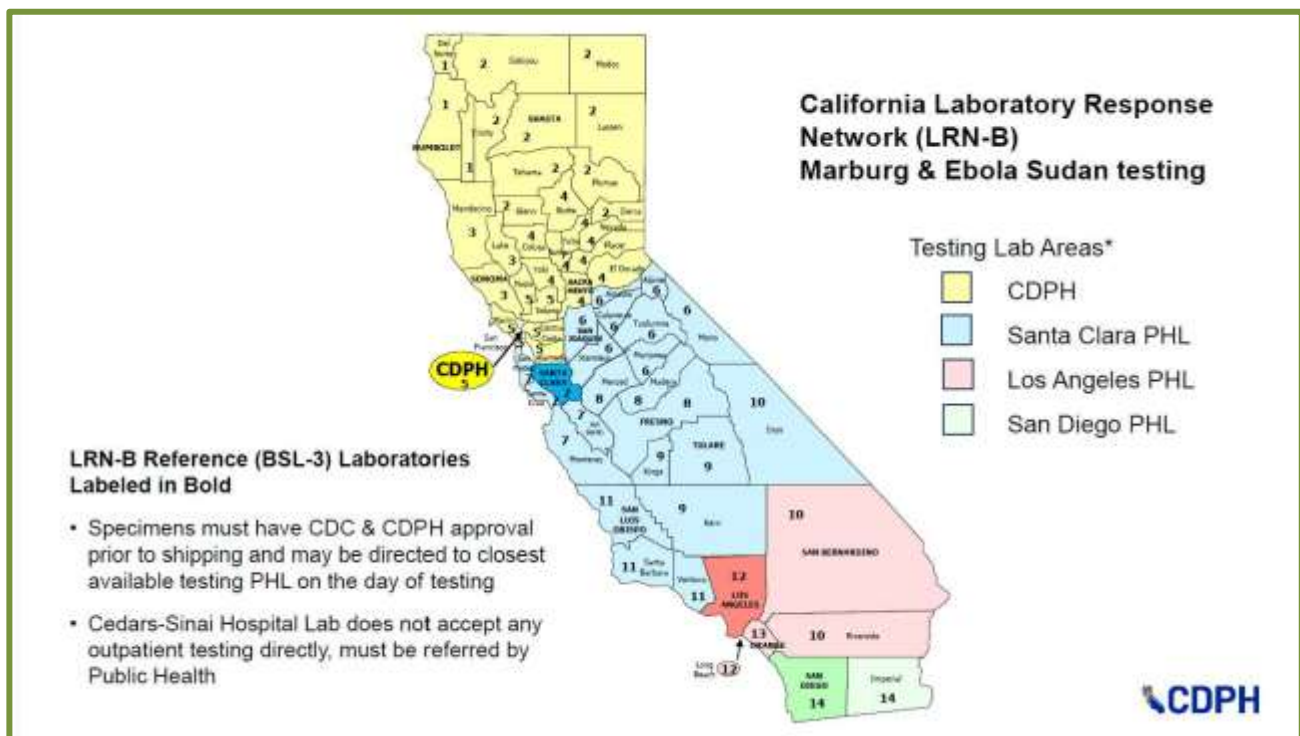
**CDC Emergency Operations Center**  
 Phone: (770) 488-7100

## EBOLA TESTING IN CALIFORNIA

Testing capacity is currently changing as various labs verify the BioFire Film Array Warrior Panel that includes *Sudan ebolavirus*. Currently, the Los Angeles County Public Health Laboratory (PHL), the Santa Clara County PHL, the Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory of the CDPH, and the Cedar Sinai laboratory have capacity to test for Ebola. San Joaquin County Public Health Laboratory's (SJCPHL) role will be as a shipping and packaging laboratory whereby SJCPHL will forward the specimens to the testing laboratory. Santa Clara County would most likely test the samples from San Joaquin County. Contact information is below.

### County of Santa Clara Communicable Disease

1. 408-885-4214 (Business Hours: 8-5 Monday through Friday)
2. 408-998-3438 (After Hours/Weekends)



## CDC LINKS

If testing is approved by the clinical consultants above:


- **Specimen Collection**  
Review and refer to the instructions at:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/viral-hemorrhagic-fevers/php/laboratories/specimen-collection.html>
- **PPE**  
Review and refer to the instructions at:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/viral-hemorrhagic-fevers/hcp/guidance/index.html>

**SPECIMEN COLLECTION:**

- For adults, collect two 4 ml of whole blood in a plastic tube preserved with EDTA. For pediatric patients, collect a minimum of 1 ml whole blood in a pediatric-sized collection tube preserved with EDTA.
- Do not transport or ship specimens in glass containers or in heparinized tubes.
- Do not separate and remove serum or plasma from the primary collection container.
- Specimen storage: 2-8°C/cold pack for up to 7 days.
- Specimen shipping: Category A (untested specimens are not classified as select agents and may be shipped via FedEx with technical name “Infectious Substance, Affecting Humans (Suspected Category A Infectious Substance)”. Do not include the suspected identity of the organism being transported on outer packaging or shipping papers. Information pertaining to the suspected identity and testing should only be present on the test requisition.

**County of Santa Clara**  
**Public Health Department**

Public Health Laboratory  
2220 Moorpark Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
San José, CA 95128  
PH: 408.885.4272 Fax: 408-885-4275  
CLIA No. 05D0643967



October 26, 2022

Subject: Sample collection, submission, and testing for Ebola Virus Disease at Santa Clara County Public Health Laboratory

Description	Provide guidance on sample collection and submission for Ebola Virus testing
Pre-Approval Required	For patients being evaluated in Santa Clara County please contact County of Santa Clara Communicable Disease at 408-885-4214 (8-5 Mon-Fri), for after hours or weekends please call the Health Officer on Duty at (408) 998-3438.  For patients evaluated outside Santa Clara County, please contact the local Public Health Department to assist with coordinating testing.
Required Forms	Santa Clara County Public Health Laboratory specimen request form: <a href="https://publichealthproviders.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb951/files/documents/gen-submittal-form.pdf">https://publichealthproviders.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb951/files/documents/gen-submittal-form.pdf</a>
Required Specimen Type	Two (2) lavender top EDTA blood specimens in plastic vacutainer tubes.
Minimum Volume Required	4 mL each tube
Storage of Samples	Store samples at 4-8°C.
Transportation of Samples	Contact Santa Clara County Public Health Laboratory at 408-885-4272 (8-5 Mon-Fri) for transportation coordination. After hours or weekends please call the Health Officer on Duty at (408) 998-3438.  <b>Do not send samples without prior coordination with County of Santa Clara Public Health Department</b>
Specimen Labeling	Samples require patient full name, DOB, MRN, date collected
Turn Around Time	4 hours from time sample is received in Santa Clara County Public Health Laboratory

Board of Supervisors: Mike Wasserman, Cindy Chavez, Otto Lee, Susan Ellenberg, S. Joseph Sinitian  
County Executive: Jeffrey V. Smith

# Packaging VHF Specimens

(Follow CDC PPE Protocols)

1. Establish a Dirty and Clean area where specimens will be received soon after collection. Follow your institution's PPE doffing protocol. Use double-gloving for this procedure. One person will handle the "dirty" side, and another will work on the "clean" side.



2. Collect all the following materials: 3 specimen bags, paper towels, extra gloves, freshly made 10% bleach, a red biohazard bag for waste and blood tubes.



3. Have everything laid out before specimens arrive. Soak paper towels in 10% bleach in both the dirty and clean areas.



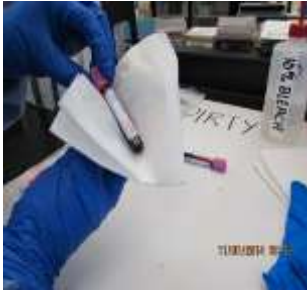
4. Soak several paper towels with freshly-made 10% bleach.



5. Make sure the tubes are labeled with the name, date of birth and date of collection



6. Thoroughly wipe the tubes with 10% bleach.



7. Clean the inner part of the septum with 10% bleach. Discard the paper towel.



8. After the tubes are cleaned place one tube per specimen bag.



9. Let excess air out of the bag because space is limited in the shipping canisters.



10. Wipe the outsides of the bags with 10% bleach. Discard towel.



11. Roll the bags.



12. Change the dirty outer gloves with clean ones.



13. Put both rolled bags into another specimen bag.



14. Wipe the outer bag with 10% bleach. Discard towels.



15. Discard outer gloves and put on clean ones.



16. Transfer the bagged tubes to a clean large plastic bag held open by a second person. The second person should never touch the specimen bags.



17. The second person sets the bag down in the clean area only. Let the excess air out of the larger plastic bag.



18. Wipe the outside of the large plastic bag with 10% bleach.



19. The second person discards outer gloves and replaces them with clean ones.



- 20. Second person hands the cleaned and bagged specimens to the Laboratory or Packaging and Shipping team.**



- 21. Follow your institution's protocols for workspace clean-up, infectious waste disposal and PPE doffing.**



- 22. The Packaging and Shipping team will place the cleaned/bagged specimens into the shipping container.**

## **SPECIMEN PACKAGING AND SHIPPING:**

- Review and refer to the instructions at:  
[https://www.cdc.gov/viral-hemorrhagic-fevers/php/laboratories/specimen-packing.html?CDC\\_AAref\\_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/laboratory-personnel/specimens.html](https://www.cdc.gov/viral-hemorrhagic-fevers/php/laboratories/specimen-packing.html?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/laboratory-personnel/specimens.html)

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/index.html>
2. <https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/index.asp>
3. <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/transporting-infectious-substances/transporting-infectious-substances-overview>
4. <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/sites/phmsa.dot.gov/files/2022-06/Transporting-Infectious-Substances-Safely.pdf>
5. <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-B/chapter-I/subchapter-C/part-173/subpart-E/section-173.196>

## **QUESTIONS:**

Contact the San Joaquin County Public Health Laboratory

Phone: 209-468-3460 Monday through Friday 8 to 5

Fax: 209-468-0639

E-mail: [PHSLabMgrs@sjcphs.org](mailto:PHSLabMgrs@sjcphs.org)

After hours: 209-468-6000. (San Joaquin General Hospital Dispatch)



209-468-3460



209-468-0639



1601 E. Hazelton Ave., Stockton, CA 95205



[PHSLableadership@sjcphs.org](mailto:PHSLableadership@sjcphs.org)