

SARS Special Investigation

Please complete and attach this slip to the laboratory requisition

TRACKING CODE: SARS- _____ - _____ - _____ (A unique case tracking number must be obtained from public health and used for specimen submissions)	
SARS Case Status: [Please check one]	
<input type="checkbox"/> Probable Case (must have had recent travel history or close contact with a probable case within 10 days of onset of symptoms) <input type="checkbox"/> travel history, please specify location?: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Suspect Case with close contact to a probable case (<u>only</u> suspect cases who have had contact with a probable case within 10 days of onset of symptoms should be investigated)
Date of onset of symptoms: ____/____/____ dd/mm/yyyy	COMMENTS:

Important Transportation Notes:

1. Address and contact information for shipment to Winnipeg should be appended to the document.
2. **PLEASE communicate with local provincial laboratories FIRST** before sending samples to the provincial labs or to the NML).
3. **Please e-mail Theodore Kuschak** at the NML (Theodore.Kuschak@hc-sc.gc.ca) to indicate that specimens are en-route

Recommended Laboratory Investigation of SARS

(NB: these recommendations are subject to revision)

In addition to clinically indicated laboratory testing conducted at the local level, the following specimens should be collected for all patients meeting the **probable case** definition or for all **suspect cases with close contacts*** to probable cases:

- I. **Acute and convalescent blood for serology** with at least 2 weeks between acute and convalescent samples
- II. **Red tube (10mL, minimum)**
- III. **Lavender tube - (7 mL minimum)** for amplification tests
- IV. **Throat swab** in viral transport media
- V. **Nasopharyngeal swab or aspirate** in viral transport medium (2mL)
- VI. **Stool for virology** - fresh or in viral transport media (if diarrhea is present). Not in preservative.

AND WHERE POSSIBLE

- VII. **Bronchial alveolar lavage or tracheal aspirate** in a sterile container.
- VIII. **IF** a probable or suspect case had additional symptoms of meningitis**:
 - **CSF** for virology - fresh specimen in CSF tube.
- IX. **All tissues from biopsy or autopsy** - fresh and fixed: lung, liver, spleen, brain, etc.

Laboratories should follow normal testing procedures and refer specimens where necessary, to the appropriate reference laboratories.