

**Human Arbovirus Testing
Georgia Public Health Laboratory
Specimen Submission Instructions**

Serum:

1. Collect one red-topped or serum-separator tube of blood.
2. Centrifuge, separate serum from clot, dispense into two sterile tubes (at least 2 cc each) for transport, and refrigerate (*do not freeze*).
3. Submission of convalescent-phase serum samples is crucial for interpretation of serologic test results. Please collect a convalescent-phase sample from patient approximately two weeks after disease onset.

CSF:

1. Send two tubes (if possible) without preservatives, containing at least 1 cc each.
2. Keep specimens frozen, preferably on dry ice in a -70°C freezer (*do not send or store CSF samples at room temperature*).

Labeling of Specimens:

Clearly label specimens with:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Patient's Name | 4. Specimen Type |
| 2. Date of Birth | 5. Date of Onset |
| 3. Medical Record Number | 6. Date of Collection |

Submission Form:

1. Complete the GPL Laboratory Form (#3583), available at http://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/GPL%20FINAL%20Lab%20Submission%20Form_Fillable%204-1-2014.docx. Please complete this form as thoroughly as possible, including the submitter information section. This contact information will be used by GPL to mail test results.
2. ***The date of symptom onset and the collection date must be completed.*** Testing will not be performed if this information is missing.
3. Check the boxes for both "Arbo IgG & IgM Panel" and "WNV IgG & IgM" for serum, or check the box "WNV IgM (CSF)" for cerebrospinal fluid.
4. Complete the Arboviral Case Report form.
5. Contact Melissa Ivey at the Georgia Department of Public Health 404-657-2588 or your appropriate District Health Office to let them know that you are submitting specimens. Fax all completed forms to 404-656-4278.

Questions should be directed to the Notifiable Disease Epidemiology Section of the Georgia Department of Public Health at 404-657-2588. **Send samples and both submission forms to:**

Georgia Public Health Laboratory
Attn: Immunology Lab
1749 Clairmont Rd., NE
Decatur, GA 30033-4050

