

Overview

**Useful For**  
Laboratory diagnosis of mumps virus infection

**Method Name**  
Enzyme Immunoassay (EIA)

**NY State Available**  
Yes

Specimen

**Specimen Type**  
Serum

**Specimen Required**  
**Supplies:** Sarstedt Aliquot Tube 5 mL (T914)  
**Collection Container/Tube:**  
**Preferred:** Serum gel  
**Acceptable:** Red top  
**Submission Container/Tube:** Plastic vial  
**Specimen Volume:** 1 mL  
**Collection Instructions:** Centrifuge and aliquot serum into plastic vial.

**Forms**  
If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send [Infectious Disease Serology Test Request](#) (T916) with the specimen.

**Specimen Minimum Volume**  
0.5 mL

Reject Due To

Gross hemolysis	Reject
Gross lipemia	Reject
Heat-inactivated specimen	Reject

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Serum	Refrigerated (preferred)	14 days	
	Frozen	14 days	

## Clinical & Interpretive

### Clinical Information

The mumps virus is a member of the Paramyxoviridae family of viruses, which include parainfluenza virus serotypes 1-4, measles, respiratory syncytial virus, and metapneumovirus. Mumps is highly infectious among unvaccinated individuals and is typically transmitted through inhalation of infected respiratory droplets or secretions. Following an approximately 2-week incubation period, symptom onset is typically acute with a prodrome of low-grade fever, headache, and malaise.(1,2) Painful enlargement of the salivary glands, the hallmark of mumps, occurs in approximately 60% to 70% of infections and in 95% of patients with symptoms. Testicular pain (orchitis) occurs in approximately 15% to 30% of postpubertal men and abdominal pain (oophoritis) is found in 5% of postpubertal women.(1) Other complications include mumps-associated pancreatitis (<5% of cases) and central nervous system disease (meningitis <10% and encephalitis <1%).

Widespread routine immunization of infants with attenuated mumps virus has dramatically decreased the number of reported mumps cases in the United States. However, outbreaks continue to occur, indicating persistence of the virus in the general population.

Laboratory diagnosis of mumps is typically accomplished by detection of IgM- and IgG-class antibodies to the mumps virus. However, due to the widespread mumps vaccination program, in clinically suspected cases of acute mumps infection, serologic testing should be supplemented with virus isolation in culture or detection of viral nucleic acid by polymerase chain reaction testing in throat, saliva, or urine specimens.

### Reference Values

Negative: Index value 0.00-0.79  
Reference value applies to all ages.

### Interpretation

Positive:  
Presence of IgM-class antibodies to mumps virus may support a clinical diagnosis of recent or acute phase infection with this virus.

Negative:  
Absence of IgM-class antibodies to mumps virus suggests lack of acute phase infection with mumps virus. However, serology may be negative in early disease, and results should be interpreted in the context of clinical findings.

### Cautions

Results must always be interpreted together with other clinical and laboratory findings.

Serum specimens drawn during the acute phase of infection may be negative by serological tests.

All positive results must be interpreted with care, as some false-positive results or heterotypical responses of the IgM have been seen in the serum of pregnant women or in patients with an acute infection caused by cytomegalovirus, herpes simplex virus, measles, rubella, and parvovirus.

**Supportive Data**

SeraQuest mumps IgM test kit showed a sensitivity of 97.3% and a specificity of 96.6% when 160 specimens were tested in parallel with a reference method.

**Clinical Reference**

1. Hviid A, Rubin S, Muhlemann K. Mumps. Lancet. 2008;371(9616):932-944
2. Hodinka RL, Moshal KL. Childhood infections. In: Storch GA, ed. Essentials of Diagnostic Virology. Churchill Livingstone; 2000:168-178
3. Harmsen T, Jongerius MC, van der Zwan CW, Plantinga AD, Kraaijeveld CA, Berbers GA. Comparison of a neutralization enzyme immunoassay and an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay for evaluation of immune status of children vaccinated for mumps. J Clin Microbiol. 1992;30(8):2139-2144
4. Litman N, Baum SG. Mumps virus. In: Bennett JE, Dolin R, Blaser MJ, eds. Mandell, Douglas, and Bennett's Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases. 9th ed. Elsevier; 2020:2087-2092

**Performance****Method Description**

The SeraQuest mumps IgM assay is an enzyme capture method. Diluted samples are incubated in wells coated with antihuman-IgM monoclonal antibodies. If present, IgM antibodies are captured in the wells. Wells are washed, removing excess sample. Conjugate-antigen complex (mumps antigen in a complex with monoclonal antibodies conjugated to horseradish peroxidase) is added, and the wells are incubated. IgM antibodies specific for the antigen will bind the conjugate. Wells are washed, removing excess conjugate. Peroxidase substrate is added, and the wells are incubated. Stop solution is added converting the substrate to a yellow end product, which is read photometrically.(Package insert: Mumps IgM. Quest International; V 04/2018)

**PDF Report**

No

**Day(s) Performed**

Tuesday

**Report Available**

1 to 7 days

**Specimen Retention Time**

14 days

**Performing Laboratory Location**

Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Superior Drive

Fees & Codes

Fees

- Authorized users can sign in to [Test Prices](#) for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact [Customer Service](#) 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their account representative. For assistance, contact [Customer Service](#).

Test Classification

This test has been cleared, approved, or is exempt by the US Food and Drug Administration and is used per manufacturer's instructions. Performance characteristics were verified by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements.

CPT Code Information

86735

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
MMPM	Mumps Ab, IgM, S	6478-2

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
MUMP1	Mumps Ab, IgM, S	6478-2
DEXM	Index Value	25419-3