



INSTRUCTIONS FOR SENDING SPECIMENS

1. Specimen Collection

- Acute Serum:** ≥ 2cc serum in red top tube, spun and separated
- Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF):** 1-2cc CSF if lumbar puncture is performed

If West Nile virus is highly suspected and acute serum is negative or inconclusive:

- 2nd Serum:** ≥ 2cc serum collected 3-5 days after acute specimen in red top

2. Specimen handling

- Refrigerate** serum specimens.
- Store cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) **frozen**.
- Each specimen should be labeled with **patient name**, **date of collection**, and **specimen type**.

3. Requested testing - check all apply:

- Serum – WNV Antibody
- CSF – WNV Antibody
- CSF – Enterovirus by PCR
- CSF – Herpes simplex virus (HSV) by PCR
- CSF – Viral Culture

Specimens should be sent on **cold pack** using an overnight courier to the following address:
Los Angeles County Public Health Laboratory, Serology Section
12750 Erickson Ave., Downey, CA 90242
Tel. (562) 658-1344

**** IMPORTANT: THE INFORMATION BELOW MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED WITH SPECIMENS ****

Patient's last name, first name:			Patient Information		
Age <u>or</u> DOB:			Address _____		
Sex (circle): M F		Onset date:	City _____ Zip _____ County _____		Phone Number (_____) _____
Clinical findings: <input type="radio"/> Encephalitis <input type="radio"/> Meningitis <input type="radio"/> Acute flaccid paralysis <input type="radio"/> Febrile illness <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ Other tests requested:			Other information (immunocompromised, travel hx, hx of flavivirus infection, etc.):		
This section for Laboratory use only. Date received and Accession Number					
1 st	Specimen type and/or specimen source	Date Collected	1 st		
2 nd	Specimen type and/or specimen source	Date Collected	2 nd		
3 rd	Specimen type and/or specimen source	Date Collected	3 rd		

Submitting Physician _____ Phone Number (_____) _____
 Submitting Facility _____ Phone Number (_____) _____

For questions concerning WNV, call Acute Communicable Disease Control Program at (213) 240-7941
 Los Angeles County Department of Public Health