

## Varicella-Zoster Virus, Molecular Detection, PCR, Varies

**Test ID:** VZVPV

**Useful for:**

Rapid (qualitative) detection of varicella-zoster virus DNA in clinical specimens for laboratory diagnosis of disease due to this virus

This test should **not** be used to screen asymptomatic patients.

**Methods:**

Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)/DNA Probe Hybridization

**Reference Values:**

Negative (Reference values apply to all ages)

**Specimen Requirements:**

Submit only 1 of the following specimens:

<b>Specimen Type:</b>	Body fluid
<b>Supplies:</b>	Sarstedt Aliquot Tube, 5 mL (T914)
<b>Sources:</b>	Spinal, pleural, peritoneal, ascites, pericardial, amniotic, or ocular
<b>Container/Tube:</b>	Sterile container
<b>Specimen Volume:</b>	0.5 mL
<b>Collection Instructions:</b>	Do not centrifuge.

<b>Specimen Type:</b>	Swab
<b>Sources:</b>	Miscellaneous; dermal, eye, nasal, or throat
<b>Supplies:</b>	Culturette (BBL Culture Swab) (T092) M4-RT (T605) Bartels FlexTrans VTM-3 mL (T892) Jiangsu VTM-3 mL (T891)
<b>Container/Tube:</b>	Multimicrobe media (M4-RT) and ESwabs
<b>Collection Instructions:</b>	Place swab back into multimicrobe media (M4-RT, M4, or M5)

**Specimen Type:** Genital Swab

**Sources:** Cervix, vagina, urethra, anal/rectal, or other genital sources

**Supplies:** Culturette (BBL Culture Swab) (T092)  
M4-RT (T605)  
Bartels FlexTrans VTM-3 mL (T892)  
Jiangsu VTM-3 mL (T891)

**Container/Tube:** Multimicrobe media (M4-RT) (T605) and ESwabs

**Collection instructions:** Place swab back into multimicrobe media (M4-RT [T605], M4, or M5).

**Specimen Type:** Respiratory

**Sources:** Bronchial washing, bronchoalveolar lavage, nasopharyngeal aspirate or washing, sputum, or tracheal aspirate

**Container/Tube:** Sterile container

**Specimen Volume:** 1.5 mL

**Specimen Type:** Tissue

**Sources:** Brain, colon, kidney, liver, lung, etc.

**Supplies:** M4-RT (T605)  
Bartels FlexTrans VTM-3 mL (T892)  
Jiangsu VTM-3 mL (T891)

**Container/Tube:** **Preferred:** Multimicrobe media (M4-RT [T605])  
**Acceptable:** Sterile container with 1 to 2 mL of sterile saline

**Specimen Volume:** Entire collection

**Collection Instructions:** Submit only fresh tissue in a sterile container containing 1 mL to 2 mL of sterile saline or multimicrobe medium (M4-RT, M4, or M5).

**Specimen Stability Information:**

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
Varies	Refrigerated (preferred)	7 days
	Frozen	7 days

**Necessary Information:**

Specimen source is required.

**Cautions:**

A negative result does not exclude the possibility of varicella-zoster virus (VZV) infection.

The reference range is typically "negative" for this assay. This assay is only to be used for patients with a clinical history and symptoms consistent with VZV infection and must be interpreted in the context of the clinical picture.

**CPT Code:**

87798

**Day(s) Performed:** Monday through Saturday

**Report Available:** 1 to 4 days

**Questions**

Contact James Conn, Laboratory Technologist Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.