

**Test Menu**

TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
<b>Test Name</b>	Varicella zoster virus (VZV), PCR
<b>Other Name (s)</b>	VZV PCR, Real-time PCR, nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT).
<b>Analyte(s)</b>	varicella zoster (VZV)
<b>Test Code</b>	0920
<b>Lab location</b>	Jacksonville and Tampa locations
<b>Department</b>	Virology
<b>Prior Authorization</b>	Requires prior approval from Regional Epidemiology and notification to the testing lab. Contact local County Health Department to start the process for approval.
<b>Required Forms</b>	Test Requisition Form, DH1847. Medical History needed (i.e. onset date, collection date, travel history, symptoms).
<b>Specimen Sources</b>	Vesicular swab (Dacron) or roof/crust of vesicle
<b>Supplemental Information- Special Specimen Preparation</b>	N/A
<b>Minimum Volume</b>	1 Swab. <b>Do not use transport media.</b>
<b>Storage Conditions</b>	<b>Do not refrigerate or freeze.</b>
<b>Collection Media</b>	Vesicular swab (Dacron) or roof/crust of vesicle in a sterile container without media or preservative. <b>Do not use transport media.</b>
<b>Specimen Labeling</b>	-Specimen must be labeled with at least two unique patient identifiers, Ex: Name and DOB. -The collection date and time if submitting multiple specimens. <b>-Information on the specimen must match the requisition.</b>
<b>Packaging and Shipping Instructions and Handling</b>	Ship swabs or scabs (with no transport media) at 15-25°C <b>without ice packs</b> . Separate multiple specimens into different bags (preferred).
<b>Test Methodology</b>	real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay
<b>Turnaround Time</b>	3 - 5 days
<b>Result Indicator</b>	VZV detected or no virus detected.
<b>Unsatisfactory Specimen</b>	Unlabeled or mislabeled specimens, insufficient quantity for testing, incorrect collection tube/transport media, grossly contaminated specimen, disparity between ID on sample and paperwork, improper collection, storage or transport of specimen, no test requested, test requested is not performed. If required, the absence of patient history. If required, the lack of patient history that is compatible with test requested. Test order cancelled by provider, broken, or leaked in transit, etc.
<b>Interferences and Limitations</b>	Swabs with calcium alginate or cotton tips or with wooden shafts, can result in inactivation of some viruses and inhibit some molecular assays
<b>Additional Information &amp; Notes</b>	Requires prior approval from CHD and notification to the testing lab.
<b>Reference Range</b>	N/A
<b>Reference Lab</b>	CDC if needed
<b>Reflex testing</b>	N/A