

Submission of Isolates or Source Material — Laboratories

A new provision [7 AAC 27.007(e)] of the regulations effective December 29, 2013 requires submission of certain isolates or original source material to the Alaska State Public Health Laboratory (ASPHL). The purpose for this requirement is to ensure that additional characterization of isolates can be performed for public health purposes such as pulsed-field gel electrophoresis or antibiotic resistance testing. These assays can assist in detection of an outbreak and monitoring of specific pathogen strains.

A laboratory that confirms one of the pathogens in the following list shall submit isolates or aliquots of original specimens to the ASPHL:

<i>Bacillus anthracis</i>	<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>
<i>Brucella species</i>	<i>Mycobacterium leprae</i>
<i>Burkholderia mallei</i>	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>
<i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i>	<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>
<i>Campylobacter species</i>	<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> from normally sterile body fluid or site
<i>Clostridium botulinum</i> , the laboratory shall provide a sample of the organism and, if available, a serum, stool, emesis, food, or environmental sample	<i>Salmonella species</i>
<i>Clostridium tetani</i>	<i>Shigella species</i>
<i>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</i>	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i> from normally sterile body fluid or site
<i>Escherichia coli</i> , shiga-like toxin producing	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> from normally sterile body fluid or site
<i>Francisella tularensis</i>	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> from normally sterile body fluid or site
<i>Haemophilus ducreyi</i>	<i>Vibrio species</i>
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> from normally sterile body fluid or site	<i>Yersinia species</i>

Additionally, if the Division of Public Health suspects or determines the existence of a situation of public health importance, including an unusual disease or outbreak, a laboratory shall submit clinical material upon request.

Isolates or aliquots of original specimens should be submitted to the ASPHL **within 2 weeks** of being identified.

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