

There has been an uptick of mumps in the community including cases diagnosed at Mount Sinai. Please consider the diagnosis when evaluating a patient with pain, tenderness and swelling of one or both of the parotid salivary glands. The mumps component of the MMR vaccine is the weakest component, and patients who have been vaccinated can still develop Mumps. In fact, most of the cases we have seen this year have been in the setting of previous vaccination.

If mumps is suspected please do the following:

1. Order **droplet precautions**
2. In EPIC, order a **mumps IgM and IgG**
3. Collect a **buccal mucosa PCR**

Collect the buccal swab in Hanks Media using a flocked swab as soon as mumps disease is suspected. RT-PCR has the greatest diagnostic sensitivity when samples collected at first contact with a suspected case.

Instructions for sending the Buccal PCR:

The buccal PCR must be sent to the NYC DOHMH and it **CANNOT** be ordered in EPIC. Please complete the appropriate **mumps requisition form** (attached). Place the forms inside the bag with each specimen. Please use a flocked swab and Hank's media. Hank's media is available in the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory (X88162).



How to collect a buccal swab:

Massage the parotid (salivary) gland for 30 seconds. Use a flocked swab to sample the buccal cavity, which is the space near the upper rear molars between the cheek and the teeth. Swab the area between the cheek and gum by sweeping the swab near the upper molar to the lower molar area. The swab should be placed in Hanks media. Ream the swab around the rim of the tube to retain cells and fluid in the tube. The swab can be broken off and left in the tube or discarded.

The Clinical Microbiology Laboratory will hold the specimens refrigerated while awaiting NYC DOHMH pick-up. In order to ensure that the specimen is stored appropriately it is best to hand deliver the specimen to the micro lab on the 9th floor of the ICAHN building (1425 Madison Avenue Rm 9-52).

Specimen tubes must be labeled with:

- Full name
- Date of Birth
- Date of Collection

If a patient is suspected or confirmed to have mumps, he or she should stay home and avoid contact with others from the time of diagnosis until at least 5 days after the onset of parotitis. All cases of suspected mumps must be reported to the NYC DOHMH. In order to facilitate this process **contact Infection Prevention**— 212-659-9450 (x89450). If it is after hours or a weekends please call the Infectious Diseases fellow on call who will notify Infection Prevention.