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General virology Viral lifecycle Viral pathogenesis Laboratory diagnosis

















Methods of diagnosis for viral diseases

- Serology
- Cytology or Histology
- Viral growth in cell culture
- Detection of viral genome



































































NYDOH lab for viral encephalitis

- Herpes Simplex
- Varicella Zoster
- Cytomegalovirus
- Epstein-Barr Virus
- Enteroviruses
- St. Louis Encephalitis (SLE)
- Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)
- California Encephalitis
- Powassan (POW)
- Rabies
- West Nile Virus

Tests include: 1) PCR, and 2) ELISA.
Freeze leftover CSF at -70°C in the event that PCR testing becomes necessary.











What specimen to collect? When?

Throat

- first presentation with fever (measles, mumps, rubella, also viral meningitis caused by enteroviruses and neonatal HSV). Vigorous swab, because you need cells.
- Nasopharyngeal swab or wash
 - ◆ Flu, RSV, Rhino-, CMV (if lots of virus)
- Rectal
 - entero- and adenoviruses (meningitis), rotavirus
- Urine
 - Adenovirus (hemorrhagic cystitis)
 - MMR, after cleared from throat or sometimes concomitant
 - CMV and HSV (rare)





- ◆ PCR for HSV, VZV, CMV, adeno or flu
- ◆ Rarely can grow coxsackie or echo
- Lesion
 - ◆ VZV, CMV, measles (scrape for cells)
 - ◆HSV, Tzanck smear
- Conjunctival

What specimen to collect? When?

- Genital
 - HSV, vulvar swab (not endocervical) in last month of pregnancy
- Buffy coats
 - CMV (fresh specimen, <1hr)</p>
- Bronchial and BAL wash
 - ◆ RSV, Flu, Adeno-, CMV etc
- Other
 - Biopsy, autopsy specimens

Transport to lab

- Since we still depend on viral growth for diagnosis, rapid transport to lab is essential
- Specimen on ice
- Refrigerate if delay inevitable, DO NOT FREEZE
- If need to store for more than 6 days, freeze at -70°C
- Transport and store in viral transport medium
- Enteroviruses more stable and will tolerate some delay
- Hand delivery encouraged (also for better communication: viruses suspected, source of material)

