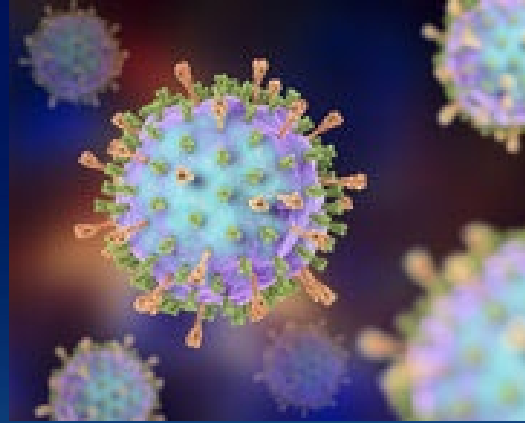


When to Suspect and Test for Mumps



Mumps should be suspected in all people with parotitis or mumps complications, regardless of age, vaccination status, and travel history.

Mumps identification

Clinically compatible illness

- A non-specific prodrome with symptoms including myalgia, anorexia, malaise, headache, and low-grade fever.
- Parotitis or salivary gland swelling within 1 to 3 days or orchitis/oophoritis unexplained by a more likely diagnosis.

Risk factors

Ask patients about:

- Possible exposure to mumps.
- Travel within the past month.
- Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccination history.

Additional considerations

- Mumps infection may also present only with nonspecific or primarily respiratory symptoms or may be asymptomatic.
- People fully vaccinated with the MMR vaccine have a much lower risk for mumps disease and complications than unvaccinated people.

Differential diagnosis

For patients presenting with mumps symptoms without a known exposure, consider testing for other etiologies that can also cause parotitis.

- Infectious causes: parainfluenza, influenza, adenovirus, Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), cytomegalovirus (CMV)
- Noninfectious causes: drug reactions, tumors, metabolic disorders, immunologic diseases, and obstruction of the salivary duct



If mumps is suspected: isolate, test, and report

Isolate

Take standard and droplet precautions in the clinic. The patient should isolate at home until mumps is ruled out or through 5 days after parotitis onset. For patients without parotitis, isolate through 5 days after symptoms onset.

Test

Preferred: PCR

Collect a buccal swab specimen for PCR testing, ideally within 3 days of parotitis onset, but it can be collected up to 10 days after parotitis onset.

Alternative: serology for IgM

Collect a serum specimen for mumps IgM if it has been 3 or more days since parotitis onset.

Testing for suspect mumps cases should be sent to the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH). For testing information and specimen collection instruction, search the [WSLH clinical testing services](https://www.slh.wisc.edu/wslhApps/RefMan/wslhSearch.php).
[slh.wisc.edu/wslhApps/RefMan/wslhSearch.php](https://www.slh.wisc.edu/wslhApps/RefMan/wslhSearch.php)

Report

Mumps is a Category II Reportable Disease. Health care providers should report by telephone the identification of a suspect case to the [local or Tribal health department](#) in which the patient resides within 72 hours of recognizing a case.

dhs.wisconsin.gov/lh-depts/counties/index.htm

Resources

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) mumps clinical overview](https://cdc.gov/mumps/hcp/clinical-overview/index.html)
cdc.gov/mumps/hcp/clinical-overview/index.html
- [Wisconsin Department of Health Services \(DHS\) mumps webpage](https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/mumps.htm)
dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/mumps.htm

