

INDIANA LABORATORY SYSTEM MONTHLY PARTNER WEBCAST

Thank you for joining us.
The webcast will begin shortly.

3/13/2025





Indiana
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INDIANA LABORATORY SYSTEM MONTHLY PARTNER WEBCAST

MARK GLAZIER
DEPUTY LABORATORY DIRECTOR

3/13/2025

Agenda

1. **Welcome and laboratory updates** – Mark Glazier, deputy laboratory director
2. **Chlamydia & Gonorrhea Shipping Update** – Stephanie Sweets, serology & CT/GC supervisor
3. **HPAI Updates** – Brian Pope, virology & biological preparedness division director
4. **Measles Updates** – Brian Pope, virology & biological preparedness division director
5. **Norovirus Testing at IDOHL** – Melissa Hindenlang, supervisor, enteric & parasitology
6. **Q & A** – IDOHL webcast team

IDOH Laboratory

Four ways to stay in the know:

1. Email us at IDOH-Lab-Info@health.in.gov
2. Sign up for IHAN – Indiana Health Alert Network
<https://ihan-in.org/>
3. [Sign up](#) for laboratory communications and updates
4. Update your laboratory's contact information [here](#)



2025 ILS webcast updates

- ILS webcasts will be held from 10:30-11 a.m. EDT, EST on the second **Thursday** each month
- Webcasts will require registration via the links provided:
 - April 10 – [Registration Link](#)
 - May 8 – [Registration Link](#)
 - June 12 – [Registration Link](#)
 - July 10 – [Registration Link](#)
- Recordings will be sent to the email provided during registration following the conclusion of the webcast



Updates and reminders



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Biothreat 101 training

- What:** Biothreat 101: Hands-On Workshop for Indiana Sentinel Laboratories
- When:** Thursday, April 17 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Where:** Indiana Department of Health Laboratory – 550 W. 16th St., Indianapolis, IN 46202
- Who:** This intermediate-level program is designed for the laboratorian with bench-level clinical microbiology experience.
- Cost:** Free
- Registration:** Please use the [Eventbrite link](#).



James Gathany

APHL free SAF-T-PAK training

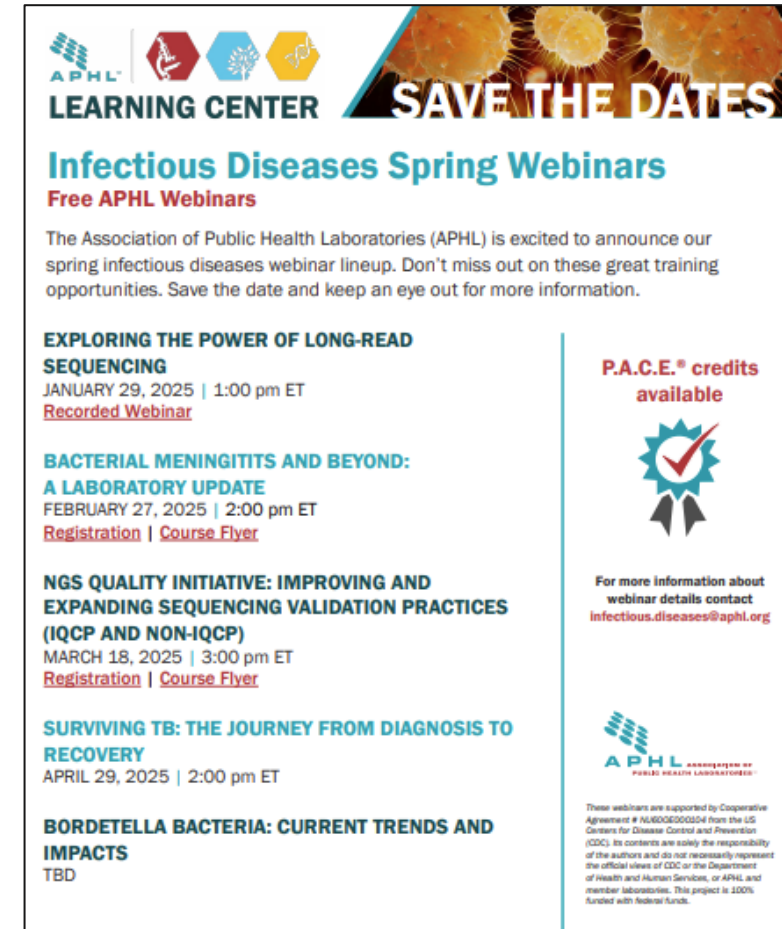
APHL is offering free SAF-T-PAK Packaging and Shipping Trainings:

- 1) **Category A** – Division 6.2 Infectious Substances – live virtual seminars
 - Multiple dates with three different start times
- 2) **Category A** – Division 6.2 Infectious Substances – online self-paced modules
 - Several modules estimated to take approximately eight hours to complete
- 3) **Category B** – online self-paced modules
 - Several modules estimated to take approximately five hours to complete

For more information, please email ido-h-lab-pack-ship@health.in.gov.

Registration open: Spring Infectious Diseases Webinar Series

- APHL has announced their spring infectious disease webinar lineup
- Read the [flyer](#) for more about the offerings and share with your network
- For more information, email infectious.diseases@aphl.org



The flyer is titled "SAVE THE DATES" in large, bold, white letters on a black background. Below the title, it says "Infectious Diseases Spring Webinars" in blue and "Free APHL Webinars" in red. The text explains that APHL is excited to announce the spring infectious diseases webinar lineup and encourages saving the date. The flyer lists four webinars: "EXPLORING THE POWER OF LONG-READ SEQUENCING" on January 29, 2025, at 1:00 pm ET, which is a recorded webinar; "BACTERIAL MENINGITIS AND BEYOND: A LABORATORY UPDATE" on February 27, 2025, at 2:00 pm ET; "NGS QUALITY INITIATIVE: IMPROVING AND EXPANDING SEQUENCING VALIDATION PRACTICES (IQCP AND NON-IQCP)" on March 18, 2025, at 3:00 pm ET; and "SURVIVING TB: THE JOURNEY FROM DIAGNOSIS TO RECOVERY" on April 29, 2025, at 2:00 pm ET. The final webinar, "BORDETELLA BACTERIA: CURRENT TRENDS AND IMPACTS" on TBD, is partially visible. A P.A.C.E.® credits available icon is shown with a checkmark and two arrows. Contact information for more details is provided as infectious.diseases@aphl.org. The APHL logo is at the bottom right, and a disclaimer about funding is at the very bottom.

APHL LEARNING CENTER **SAVE THE DATES**

Infectious Diseases Spring Webinars

Free APHL Webinars

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) is excited to announce our spring infectious diseases webinar lineup. Don't miss out on these great training opportunities. Save the date and keep an eye out for more information.

EXPLORING THE POWER OF LONG-READ SEQUENCING
JANUARY 29, 2025 | 1:00 pm ET
[Recorded Webinar](#)

BACTERIAL MENINGITIS AND BEYOND: A LABORATORY UPDATE
FEBRUARY 27, 2025 | 2:00 pm ET
[Registration](#) | [Course Flyer](#)

NGS QUALITY INITIATIVE: IMPROVING AND EXPANDING SEQUENCING VALIDATION PRACTICES (IQCP AND NON-IQCP)
MARCH 18, 2025 | 3:00 pm ET
[Registration](#) | [Course Flyer](#)

SURVIVING TB: THE JOURNEY FROM DIAGNOSIS TO RECOVERY
APRIL 29, 2025 | 2:00 pm ET

BORDETELLA BACTERIA: CURRENT TRENDS AND IMPACTS
TBD

P.A.C.E.® credits available

For more information about webinar details contact infectious.diseases@aphl.org

APHL ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

These webinars are supported by Cooperative Agreement # NU6000000054 from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of CDC or the Department of Health and Human Services, or APHL and member laboratories. This project is 100% funded with federal funds.

CDC HAN: Ebola outbreak in Uganda

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory about a recently confirmed outbreak of Ebola disease in Uganda caused by the Sudan virus (species *Orthoebolavirus sudanense*). To view the HAN, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/han/2025/han00521.html>
- **Currently, no suspected, probable, or confirmed Ebola cases related to this outbreak have been reported in the United States, or outside of Uganda.**
- On February 5, 2025, CDC issued a Travel Health Notice Level 2: Practice Enhanced Precautions for people traveling to Uganda.
- Currently, CDC has not issued any interim recommendations to health departments for post-arrival risk assessment and management of travelers, including U.S.-based healthcare workers, arriving from Uganda.
 - CDC recommends that travelers monitor themselves for symptoms of Sudan virus disease (SVD) while in the outbreak area and for 21 days after leaving. Travelers should also self-isolate and contact local health authorities or a clinician if they develop symptoms (early “dry” symptoms may include fever, aches, pains, and fatigue and later “wet” symptoms may include diarrhea, vomiting, and unexplained bleeding).



Chlamydia & Gonorrhea Shipping Update – Stephanie Sweets



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Chlamydia & Gonorrhea Shipping Update

- To ensure specimen integrity during the pre-analytical phase, all chlamydia and gonorrhea (CT/GC) **specimens must be packaged in individual bags to prevent contact with each other starting 3/31/2025.**
- Single use plastic sleeves will be mailed to every submitter this week.
- Plastic sleeves will be included with all new collection kit requests.
- Use fold-over top sleeves for specimens sent via UPS and zip-top sleeves for specimens sent via STAT Courier.
- Only one specimen per plastic sleeve is permitted.
- Indicate if you will be shipping specimens via UPS or STAT Courier during the kit request process to ensure receipt of the correct sleeves.

Chlamydia & Gonorrhea Shipping Update

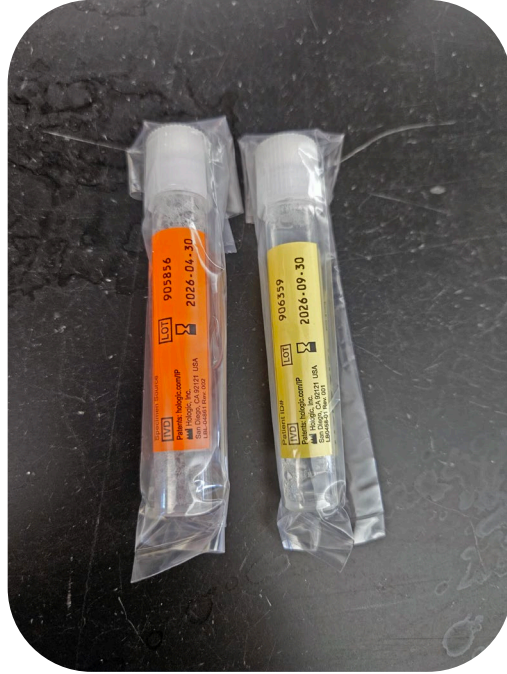
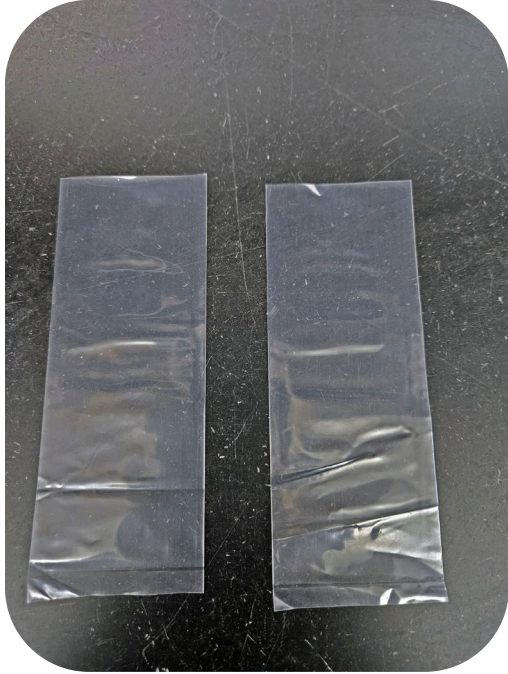
Starting 3/31/2025, any specimens received at IDOHL, not in a single use sleeve or zip-lock bag and touching any other specimen will be cancelled. Any cancelled specimens will need to be recollected to obtain results.

Unacceptable Packaging - UPS



In this UPS packaging for shipping, the 13A canister holds five specimens that are touching one another with no barrier in between. Moving forward, this packaging in a 13A canister will result in cancelled specimens.

Acceptable Packaging - UPS



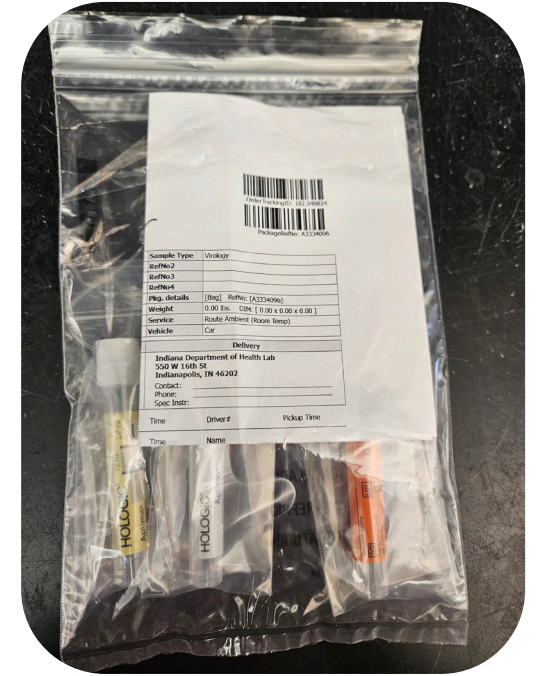
Acceptable packaging for UPS shipping requires each specimen tube to be placed in a single use plastic sleeve before being placed in the 13A canister provided by IDOHL.

Unacceptable Packaging – STAT Courier



In this package, four specimens are placed in the same biohazard bag with no barrier in between. Moving forward, this packaging in a biohazard bag will result in cancelled specimens.

Acceptable Packaging – STAT Courier



Acceptable packaging for STAT Courier shipping requires each specimen to be placed in a single use zip-lock top plastic bag before being placed in a biohazard bag with a STAT Courier shipping label.

Final Reminder

- **Starting 3/31/2025, any specimens received at IDOHL, not in a single use sleeve or zip-lock bag and touching any other specimen will be cancelled. Any cancelled specimens will need to be recollected to obtain results.**
- Please reach out to Stephanie Sweets, serology & CT/GC supervisor, for questions:
 - Email: ssweets@health.in.gov
 - Phone: 317-921-5535



Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza – Brian Pope



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H5N1 National Update – 2/24/25

- 70 confirmed human cases in the United States (13 states)
 - 54% are from CA
 - 59% exposed to dairy herds
 - No evidence of person-to-person transmission has been detected
- CDC confirmed the first death associated with H5N1 in the U.S. in Louisiana
 - Patient had exposure to sick and dead birds in backyard flocks

H5N1 Indiana Update

- Current situation since January 2025
 - No dairy cattle detections so far in Indiana
 - Avian flu has been detected in wild and commercial flocks
 - No human cases of H5N1 detected in Indiana
- Post-exposure monitoring
 - IDOH will communicate directly with LHDs if they have a resident with known exposure
 - IDOH has developed resources and is planning training for LHDs on post-exposure monitoring
 - Field epis contacted five counties with active animal responses last week

Influenza Surveillance & H5N1 Testing

- Sites submitting for Influenza subtyping need to follow our traditional algorithm, this is for any site with an Influenza A positive result without epidemiological concern for H5.
- Sites submitting for Influenza H5 specific testing where the individual meets certain epidemiological concerns need to go through our H5 approval process which **can** involve collection of different specimen types. Submitters should follow the IHAN guidance immediately upon suspicion.

H5N1 Testing

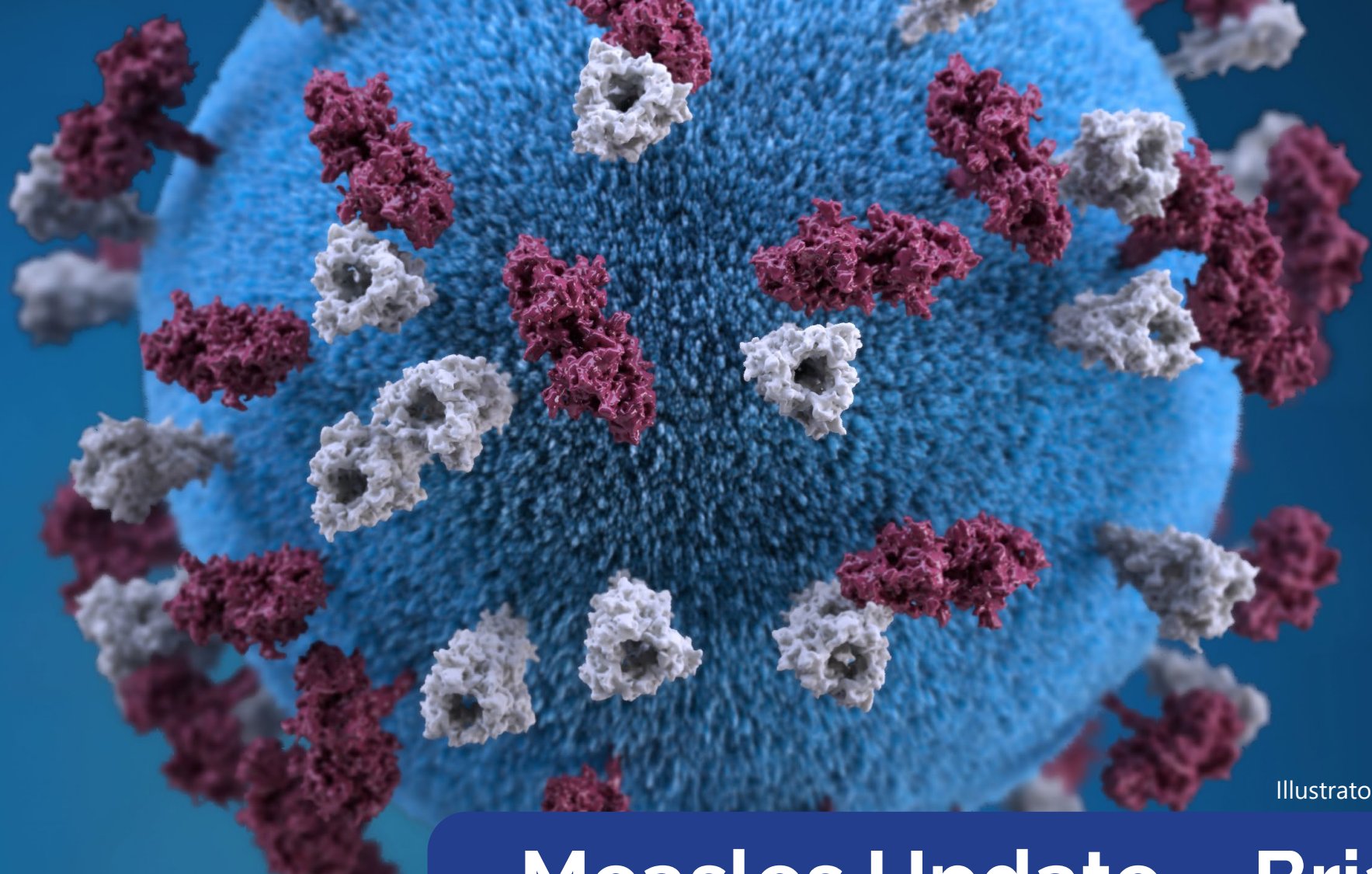
- IDOH has developed resources for LHDs on specimen collection
- IHAN released by the IDOH on 1.22.25:
<https://www.in.gov/health/emergency-preparedness/files/IHAN-HPAI-1.22.25.pdf>
- The IDOH does accept specimens for regular influenza surveillance, please reach out if you would like to submit.
- Specimen Submission Instructions – Influenza:
<https://www.in.gov/health/laboratories/testing/influenza/>

Key points

- **The risk of avian influenza to the general public is considered low**
 - People with job-related or recreational exposures to infected birds, cattle, or other animals are at a higher risk of infection
- **There is no concern for contamination of the food/milk supply**
 - Food products from sick animals are prevented from entering the food supply and beef cooked to the recommended cooking temperature are effective in inactivating H5N1 virus
 - Pasteurization is required in Indiana for any milk entering interstate commerce for human consumption and this process is proven to inactivate H5N1 viruses in milk
- Although severe illness is possible, most patients who have had avian influenza have experienced a mild illness. Conjunctivitis can be the only symptom.

H5 Avian Resources

- IDOH IDEPD Avian Influenza Website:
<https://www.in.gov/health/idepd/respiratory-disease/influenza/avian-influenza/>
- H5 Bird Flu Current Situation: <https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/situation-summary/index.html>
- USDA Detections of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza:
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-detections>
- CDC HAN – Accelerated Subtyping of Influenza A in Hospitalized Patients:
<https://www.cdc.gov/han/2025/han00520.html>
- CDC – First H5 Bird Flu Death Reported in the United States:
<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2025/m0106-h5-birdflu-death.html>



Illustrator: Alissa Eckert

Measles Update – Brian Pope



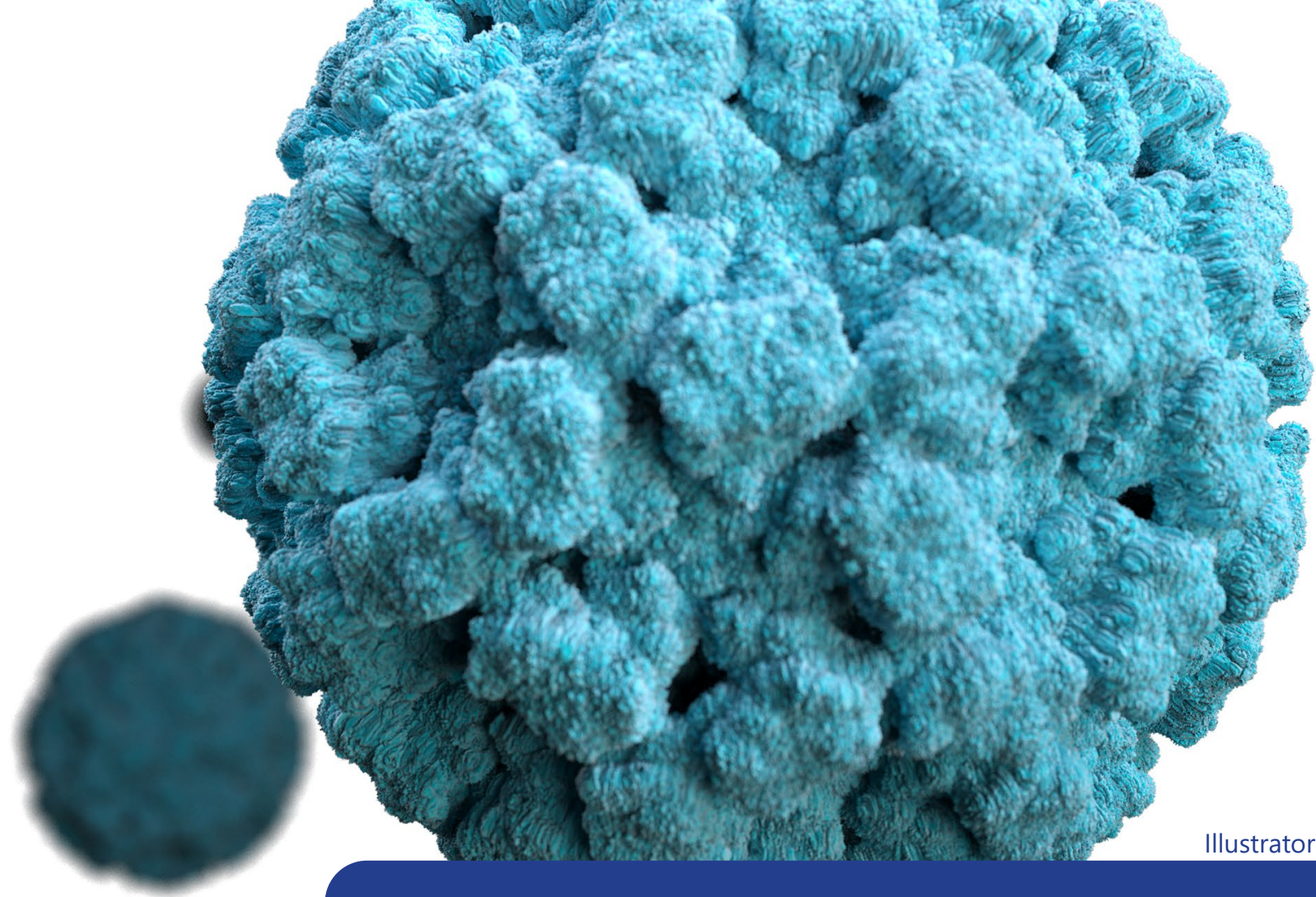
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Measles Update – 2/20/25

- 2 large outbreaks of Measles in the United States
 - 90 cases identified in the South Plains region of Texas
 - 9 cases identified in Lea County, New Mexico
- No recent cases have been identified in Indiana

Measles Update – 2/20/25

- PCR Testing is offered through the IDOH Laboratory <https://www.in.gov/health/laboratories/testing/measles-pcr/>
- Specimens must be pre-approved by IDOH epidemiologists prior to testing



Illustrator: Alissa Eckert, MS

Norovirus Testing at IDOHL – Melissa Hindenlang



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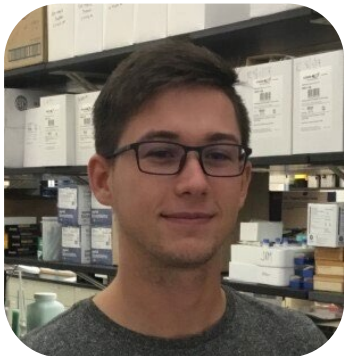
Enteric & Parasitology Lab Staff

Supervisor: Melissa Hindenlang



Microbiologists:

Isaac



Anna



Jaxon



Lori



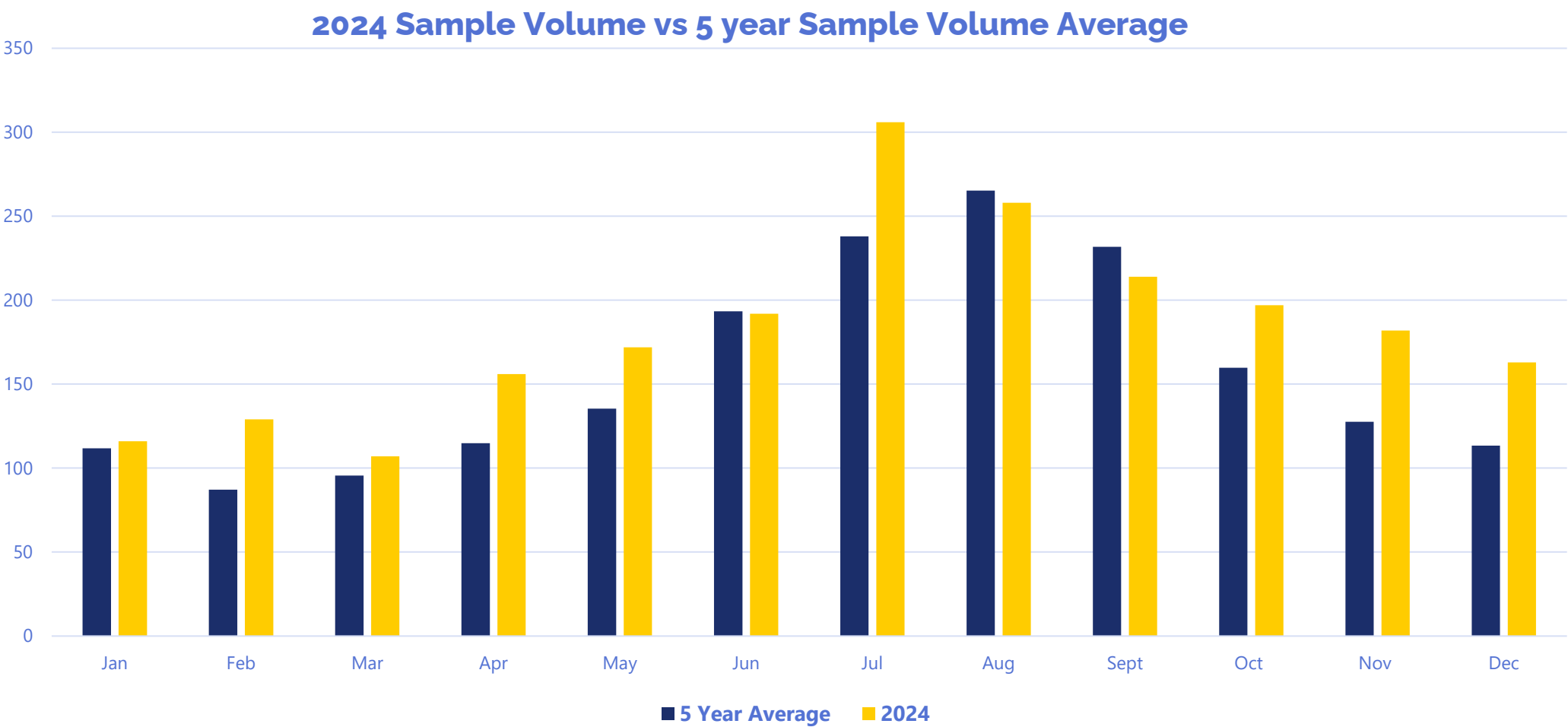
Naomi



Chris



Enteric samples: 2024 vs 5-year average



IDOHL Enteric Laboratory Testing

CDR **required** specimens:

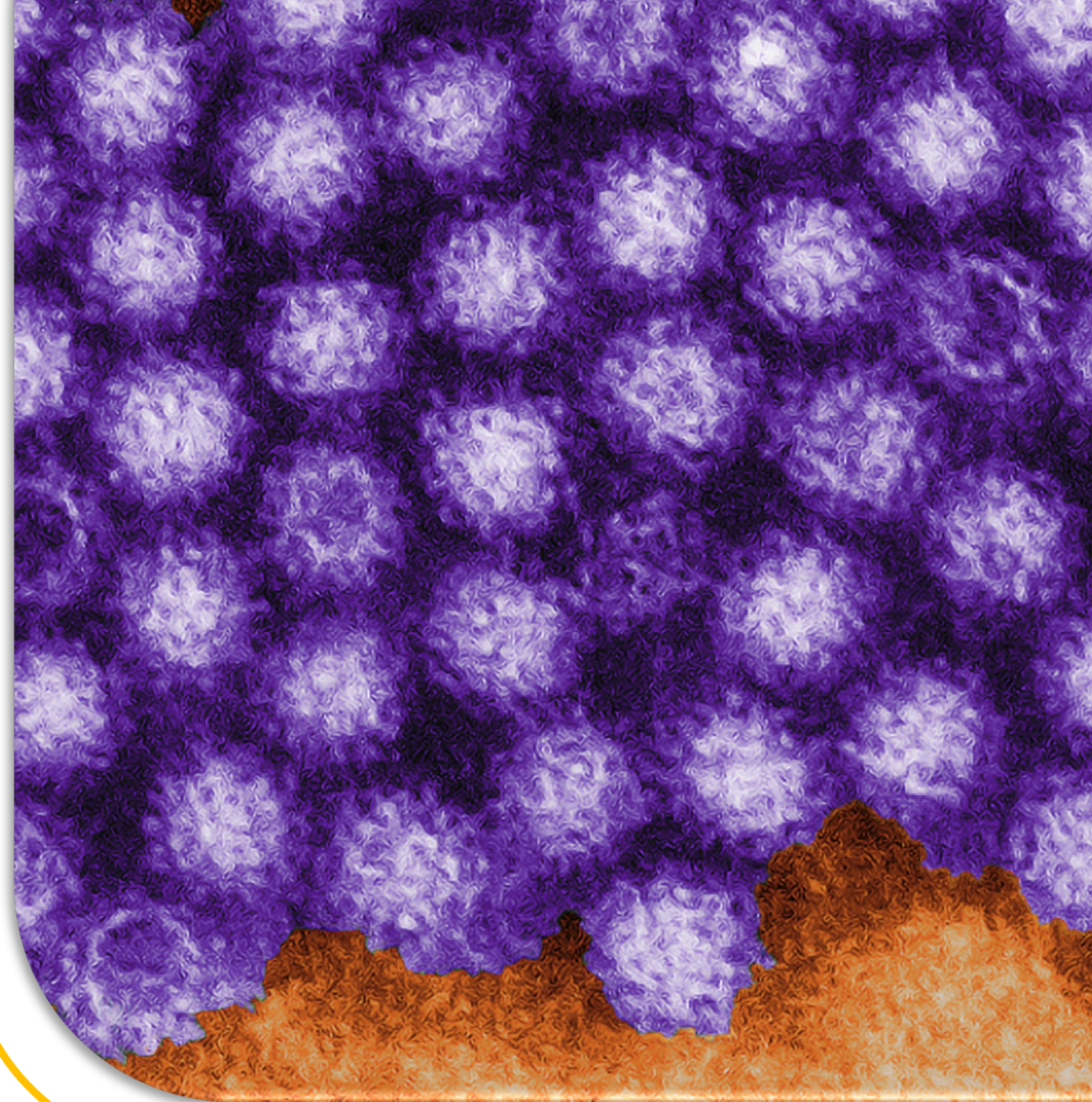
- *Salmonella*
- *Shigella*
- Shiga Toxin-Producing *E. coli* (STEC)
- *Vibrio*
- *Listeria*

Other organisms tested, but not required:

- *Aeromonas*
- *Campylobacter*
- **Norovirus**
- *Plesiomonas*
- *Yersinia enterocolitica*

Food related *Bacillus cereus* group, *Clostridium perfringens*, and *Staphylococcus aureus* testing available

BIOFIRE® testing is utilized for unknown etiological outbreaks and parasitology testing



This digitally-colored, transmission electron microscopic (TEM) image, revealed some of the ultrastructural morphology displayed by a cluster of norovirus virions. (CDC Public Health Image Library)

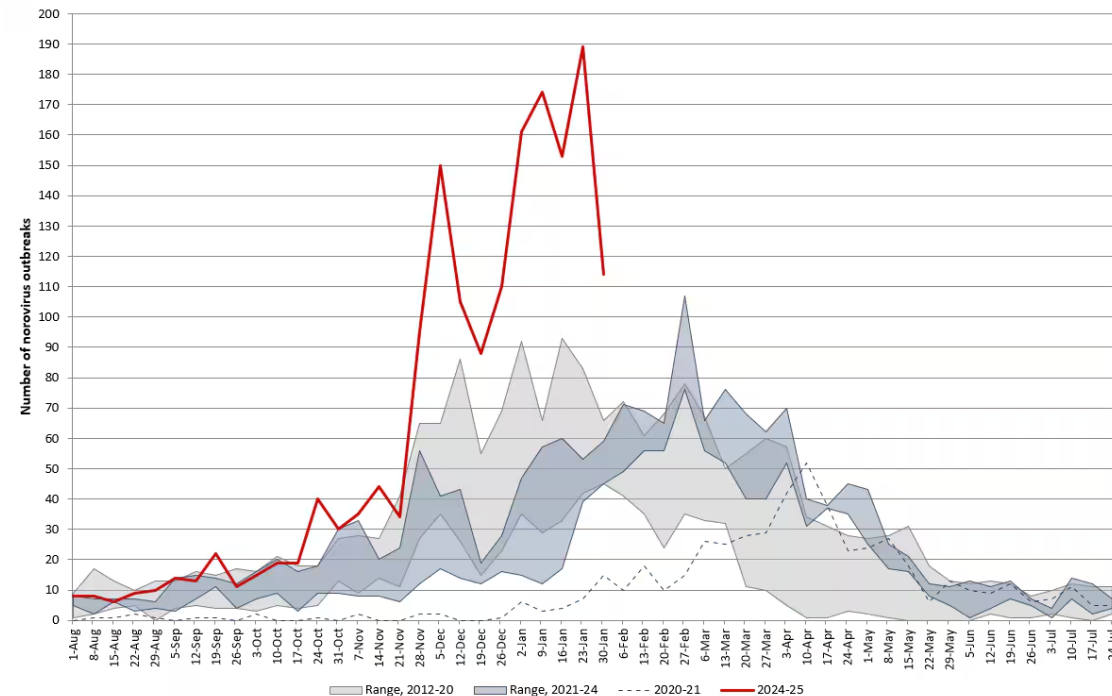
Norovirus Reporting

- NoroSTAT – CDC program that is a network of state health departments that provide near real-time data about norovirus outbreaks
- From August 1, 2024 – February 5, 2025, there were 1,676 norovirus outbreaks reported to NoroSTAT.
 - This is an increase of 947 reported in this same timeframe last year.

**Reported Norovirus Outbreaks by State
Public Health Departments by Week of Onset**

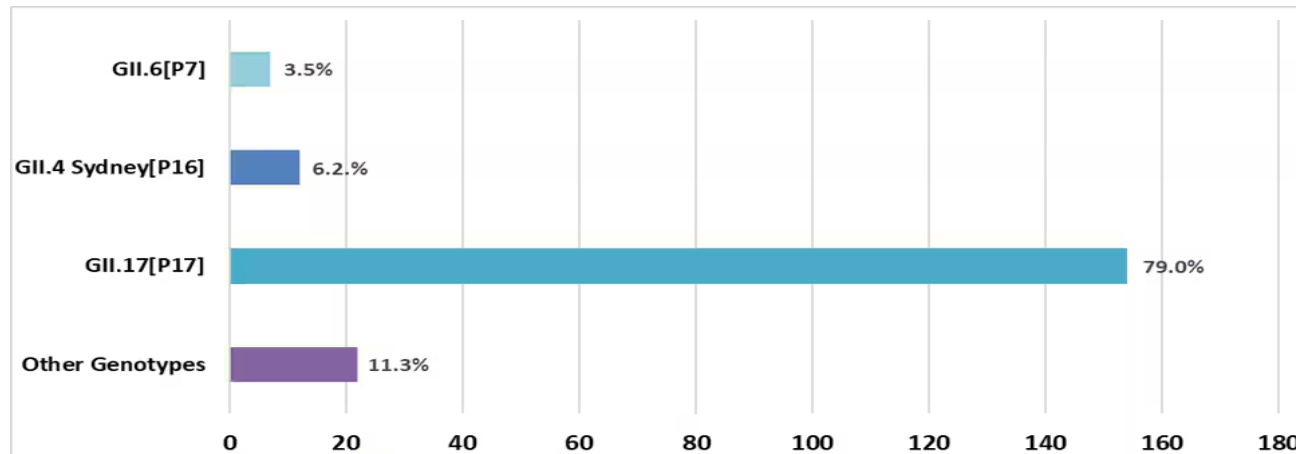
Week	2024-25
5-Dec	150
12-Dec	105
19-Dec	88
26-Dec	110
2-Jan	161
9-Jan	174
16-Jan	153
23-Jan	189
30-Jan	114

**Number of Suspected or Confirmed Norovirus Outbreaks Reported by
NoroSTAT-Participating States Per Week, 2012–2025**



Norovirus Confirmed Outbreaks

- CaliciNet – the network of national norovirus outbreak surveillance from public health laboratories
- 195 outbreaks have been confirmed with data submitted to CaliciNet from September 2024-January 31, 2025*
- Noroviruses are classified by their genogroups. IDOHL tests for genogroups I and II (out of 10) via PCR testing. Sanger sequencing further classifies the samples into one of 48 possible genotypes.
 - Genotype distribution is predominately GII.17[P17] with 154 of the 195 confirmed outbreaks belonging to this genotype*



Genotype distribution of norovirus outbreaks September 1, 2024 – January 31, 2025

Other genotypes include GI.2[P2], GI.3[P3], GI.3[P13], GI.5[P5], GI.6[P11], GI.7[P7], GII.3[P12], GII.4 San Francisco[P31], GII.4 Sydney[P31], GII.7[P7], GII.10[P16]

IDOHL Norovirus Data

IDOHL Norovirus Data: July 2023 - Current

Year	Stool Samples Tested	Positive Samples	Samples Sequenced	Genotypes
July 2023 – June 2024	11	7	6	GII.6[P7] GII.4Sydney[P16]
July 2024 – 2025 to date	11	8	8	GII.17[P17]

IDOHL Norovirus Data: July 2018 – June 2020

Year	Stool Samples Tested	Positive Samples	Samples Sequenced	Genotypes
July 2018 – June 2019	37	26	20	GII.6[P7],GII.3[P12], GII.4Sydney[P16] , GII.1[P16], GII.12[P16]
July 2019 – July 2020	52	42	34	GII.4Sydney[P16] , GII.4Sydney[P31], GII.17[P17], GII.1[P16], GII.3[P12], GII.4untypable[P16]

IDOHL Norovirus Testing

- **WE WANT YOUR SAMPLES!**

- Currently, IDOHL does not perform testing on sporadic norovirus samples.
 - Typically, this is a singular positive sample at a hospital or other testing facility.
- However, we will gladly test for suspected Norovirus outbreaks.
 - Two stool samples are required for testing with three samples being ideal.
 - Collect samples as soon as possible after illness onset and keep refrigerated. Do not freeze.
 - Samples **MUST** be received at IDOHL within 5 days of collection.
 - Stool collection kits can be ordered from IDOHL's Container Section. This will include the cary blair transport media and absorbent material, at minimum.

Enteric Container Ordering via LimsNet

401 unsubmitted tests Melissa Hindenlang Site: ABC TESTING SITE

Log new order: **Kit Order Enteric** [Submit Tests](#) [Packages](#) [Test Results](#) [Personalized Settings](#)

[Log Off](#)

IDOHL Clinical Container Request

Shipping Information

Site*	ABC TESTING SITE		
Contact Name*	MELISSA HINDENLANG		
Phone	317-921-5500		
Email ID*	mhindenlang@health.in.gov		
Street Address*	550 W. 16th Street (LAB)		
City*	Indianapolis	State*	IN
		Zip*	46202

Kit Request Information

Email Questions to: Containers@health.in.gov Questions call: 317-921-5875

	Kit #	Kit Type	# Whole Kits*	Extra or Replacement Kit Components Only	Quantity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7A	Enteric Max: 10	2	Transport Media (only) Max: 15	0
				Mailing Labels Max: 15	0
				Absorbent Material Max: 15	0

401 unsubmitted tests. Melissa Hindenlang Site: ABC TESTING SITE
 Log new order: **Kit Order Enteric** [Submit Tests](#) [Packages](#) [Test Results](#) [Personalized Settings](#)
[Log Off](#)

IDOHL Clinical Container Request

Shipping Information

Site*

Contact Name*

Phone

Email ID*

Street Address*

City* State* Zip*

Kit Request Information

Email Questions to: Containers@health.in.gov Questions call: 317-921-5875

	Kit #	Kit Type	# Whole Kits*	Extra or Replacement Kit Components Only	Quantity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7A	Enteric Max: 10	<input type="text" value="2"/>	Transport Media (only) Max: 15	<input type="text" value="0"/>
				Mailing Labels Max: 15	<input type="text" value="0"/>
				Absorbent Material Max: 15	<input type="text" value="0"/>

Order submitted successfully. Package ID: 202304200000262142.

[Submit another order](#)

Your request for Kit Ordering has been successfully submitted.

Package ID: 202304200000262142

Shipping Information	
Site Name	ABC TESTING SITE
Contact Name	MELISSA HINDENLANG
Phone	317-921-5500
Email ID	mhindenlang@health.in.gov
Street Address	550 W. 16th Street (LAB)
City	Indianapolis
State	IN
Zip	46202
For questions, Email to: Containers@health.in.gov (or) Call: 317-921-5875	

Kit Request Information				
Kit #	Kit Type	Whole Kits	Extra Or Replacement Kit Components Only	Quantity
7A	Enteric	2	Transport Media (only)	0
			Mailing Labels	0
			Absorbent Material	0

Questions?

Melissa Hindenlang

Enteric and Parasitology Supervisor

mhindenlang@health.in.gov

317-921-5853





Question & Answer Session



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Questions?

IDOH Laboratory

317-921-5500

IDOH-lab-info@health.in.gov



Next webcast

The next Indiana Laboratory System webcast is scheduled for:

Date: Thursday, April 10

Time: 10:30 – 11 a.m. EST





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**THANK YOU FOR JOINING
THE WEBCAST!**

- IDOH Laboratory Team