NAPA-SOLANO-YOLO-MARIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

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Test	Herpes PCR
Test Description	Real-time reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) for the detection of Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) Type I and Type II nucleic acids in clinical specimens.
Acceptable specimens	 Rayon or cotton swab with cellular scraping from a vesicular lesion placed in 2–3 mL of viral transport medium
Timing of specimen collection	Specimens should be collected from lesions or mucocutaneous sites (e.g., sites with necrotic debris or exudate) during active infection.
Specimen storage	Specimens should be kept refrigerated at 2–8°C or frozen if testing is to be delayed beyond 24 hours.
Specimen shipping	Specimens should be shipped refrigerated (2–8°C) and received by the laboratory within 24 hours of collection. Swabs should be transported on dry ice if previously frozen.
CPT code	87529
Test fee	Refer to the posted fee schedule
Result availability (turnaround time)	Results are typically faxed to the submitter within 2–3 business days after specimen receipt.