Yersinia pestis

Method	Nucleic acid detection by real-time Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (qRT-PCR) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) FDA approved the method
CPT Code	87801 Molecular amplification, multiple agents 83891 Extraction of highly purified nucleic acid
Specimen	Bronchial wash, transtracheal aspirate, sputum, nasopharyngeal swabs, culture isolates
Collect in	Sterile container, Evacuated sample collection tube, culture plates or tubes
Labeling	Label transport tube with patient's first and last name. Record date and time collected on the tube.
Processing	Indicate specimen source on requisition form
Transport	Store and transport refrigerated (2-8°C) within 72 hours or freeze (-20 ° C)
Sample Rejection	- Mislabeled/unlabeled specimen - Specimen quantity not sufficient for testing (QNS)
Requisition	SNPHL Request Forms Testing is performed only at the request of SNHD Office of Epidemiology
Turn Around Time	24 hours following receipt in the laboratory
Results	Yersinia pestis DNA detected (positive) or not detected (negative)
Reported	System generated fax; Electronic transmission
Note	If inhibitors are present in DNA extraction, PCR assays may produce a false negative result. A false negative result may occur if a sample is improperly collected, transported or handled. False negative results may occur if inadequate numbers of organisms are present in the sample.
Contact	Southern Nevada Public Health Laboratory – Virology Department