

MDL Form 176Z – Adult Botulism Testing Electronic Submittal Form Instructions

Use Lab Form 176-Z to submit human specimens for botulinum toxin testing. Use the following steps to enter information for the submission of each specimen.

NOTE: We are unable to process samples with inadequate information.

1. On page one, under “Select Test Requisition”, use the pull down menu to select Lab Form “**Adult Botulism Testing**” Provide all necessary information on page 1. For directions on how to fill out the fields on page 1, please refer to the “**General Human Specimen Submission Page 1 Instructions**” document.
2. All botulism testing must be approved by CDPH Division of Communicable Disease Control Subject Matter Experts or Duty Officer **PRIOR** to submission. Specimens submitted without approval will not be tested.
3. Follow the instructions below to provide additional information on **page 2**
 - 3.1. **Indicate the suspected case type if known**
 - 3.2. **Indicate if neostigmine class drugs have been administered and if tensilon test has been performed**
 - 3.3. **Indicate if heptavalent botulinum antitoxin (HBAT) was administered**
4. Print the completed **Lab Form 176Z** front to back. The document is formatted for 2-sided printing.
5. Packaging and Shipping: The submitter is responsible for making sure that all samples are packaged and shipped in compliance to federal and state packaging and shipping regulations.
6. Additional considerations when submitting samples:
 - 6.1. Clinical specimens should be appropriately sealed to prevent leakage during transport.
 - 6.2. If submitting a culture isolate, it should be a pure culture in a taped tube of anaerobic growth medium that supports *Clostridium botulinum*
 - 6.3. Do not submit isolates on agar plating medium.

- 6.4. Label sample tube with at least two identifiers (i.e. the patient's name, submitter lab number, date of birth) and the date collected.
- 6.5. Before shipment, insert the completed **Lab Form 176Z** and all attachments between the inner and outer shipping containers.
- 6.6. Follow all other submission guidelines as described in the "General Specimen Submission Instructions" and guides located on the MDL Services and Test Catalog website.
- 6.7. If you have any questions regarding sample submission, call the MDL for guidance (510) 412-3700.