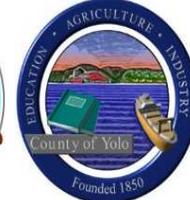


**NAPA-SOLANO-YOLO-MARIN COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY**  
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<b>Test</b>	Venereal Disease Research Laboratory (VDRL) screening test for syphilis
<b>Test Description</b>	The VDRL test is a microscopic, nontreponemal test for the qualitative and semi-quantitative serological detection of syphilis. The VDRL test detects reagin, which is a lipoidal antibody produced as a result of diseases having an acute or chronic nature in which tissue damage occurs, including syphilis and other treponemal diseases. The VDRL test is a screening test and a positive result must be confirmed using a treponemal test, such as the <i>Treponema pallidum</i> particle agglutination (TP-PA) test. Nontreponemal tests for syphilis become reactive 4-6 weeks after infection with titers peaking during secondary to early latent stage disease. The VDRL card test does not distinguish between antibodies produced from infections with <i>Treponema pallidum</i> and other <i>Treponema</i> species, including those causing yaws, pinta and bejel. The semi-quantitative VDRL card test may be used as a method to follow treatment response, where a four-fold or greater drop in titer between pre- and post-treatment timepoints is indicative of response to therapy.
<b>Acceptable specimens</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cerebrospinal fluid at a volume of 0.5 mL</li> <li>2. Serum at a volume of 2 mL (5 to 10 mL of blood) in a red top or serum separator tube without anticoagulant</li> </ol> <p>Note: If serum is submitted, it is preferable to request the Rapid Plasma Reagin (RPR) test.</p>
<b>Timing of specimen collection</b>	A minimum of 4 to 6 weeks after onset of infection or exposure.
<b>Specimen storage</b>	Specimens should be kept refrigerated at 2–8°C for up to 5 days after collection.
<b>Specimen shipping</b>	Specimens should be shipped refrigerated (2–8°C) and received by the laboratory within 5 days of collection.
<b>CPT code</b>	86592 (qualitative), 86593 (semi-quantitative)
<b>Test fee</b>	Refer to the posted fee schedule
<b>Result availability (turnaround time)</b>	Results are typically available within 1 week after specimen receipt.