

MLS Laboratory Update: First Case of *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* genotype VII confirmed in MN

AUGUST 5, 2025

Purpose of this Message:

To provide awareness of *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* genotype VII (TMVII) and instruction on how to obtain confirmatory testing.

Action Item:

Follow instructions below if your laboratory is requested to send a fungal isolate for confirmation of TMVII.

Background:

Trichophyton mentagrophytes genotype VII (TMVII) is a recently emerged dermatophyte that can cause ringworm associated with sexual contact. The first United States case of genital ringworm caused by TMVII was reported in New York City in June 2024: [Potential Sexual Transmission of Tinea Pubogenitalis from TMVII](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamadermatology/article-abstract/2819235) (<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamadermatology/article-abstract/2819235>). CDC is aware of sporadic other cases among men who have sex with men, primarily in larger cities across the U.S.

In July 2025, the first case of TMVII was confirmed in a Minnesota resident who sought care for a genital rash. At least one other case is suspected. Clinicians should consider dermatophyte infection in patients with painful and persistent perioral, perianal, or genital skin lesions, and should contact MDH for assistance with confirmatory testing.

Clinicians, please call MDH epidemiology at 651-201-5414 if you suspect a case of TMVII. MDH can also coordinate with CDC to obtain clinical consultation on individual cases if needed.

Submission of Fungal Isolates for Confirmation:

If your laboratory is requested to confirm a fungal isolate as *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* genotype VII (TMVII), please submit the isolate to the MDH Public Health Laboratory (PHL). MDH-PHL will refer the isolate to the Wadsworth Center at the New York State Department of Health for confirmatory identification and genotyping. The turnaround time for this testing is approximately two weeks. Antifungal susceptibility testing can be requested, as needed.

Before sending an isolate, please email arlnmn@state.mn.us to discuss with MDH-PHL and receive approval.

The isolate should be pure and growing on a SAB slant or other media that supports the growth of fungus.

Please use the MDH-PHL [Infectious Disease Laboratory Submission Form \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/idlab/mdh_lab_submission.pdf\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/idlab/mdh_lab_submission.pdf) – instructions for properly filling out the form will be provided after the isolate has been approved to send.

Resources:

- [CDC MMWR Notes from the Field: Trichophyton mentagrophytes Genotype VII - New York City, April - July 2024 \(https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/mm7343a5.htm\)](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/mm7343a5.htm)
- [American Academy of Dermatology: Trichophyton mentagrophytes genotype VII and other emerging dermatophytes of concern \(https://www.aad.org/member/clinical-quality/clinical-care/emerging-diseases/dermatophytes/other-emerging-dermatophytes\)](https://www.aad.org/member/clinical-quality/clinical-care/emerging-diseases/dermatophytes/other-emerging-dermatophytes)
- [American Academy of Dermatology: Recognizing Trichophyton indotineae \(https://www.aad.org/member/clinical-quality/clinical-care/emerging-diseases/dermatophytes/recognizing-trichophyton-indotineae\)](https://www.aad.org/member/clinical-quality/clinical-care/emerging-diseases/dermatophytes/recognizing-trichophyton-indotineae). Contains information on laboratory testing for resistant tinea infections.
- [National Coalition of STD Director: Recent dermatophyte \(ringworm\) cases associated with sexual contact \(https://www.ncsddc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/dermatophyte-summary-for-NCSD_10_20_2023-UPDATE_6_26_2024.pdf\)](https://www.ncsddc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/dermatophyte-summary-for-NCSD_10_20_2023-UPDATE_6_26_2024.pdf)

Questions:

If you have laboratory–related questions please contact Paula Vagnone, Microbiology Unit Supervisor, at 651-201-5581.

Thank you for your attention to this newly emerging organism.

Paula M. (Snippes) Vagnone, MT (ASCP)
Microbiology Unit Supervisor, AR Lab Network Central Region Coordinator
Public Health Laboratory, Minnesota Department of Health
Phone: 651-201-5581
paula.snippes@state.mn.us

THIS IS AN UPDATE FROM THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY (MDH-PHL) AND THE MINNESOTA LABORATORY SYSTEM (MLS). THIS MESSAGE IS BEING SENT TO MLS LABORATORY CONTACTS SERVING MINNESOTA RESIDENTS. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE.

PLEASE FORWARD THIS TO ALL APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL WITHIN YOUR INSTITUTION AND HEALTH SYSTEM

THE CONTENT OF THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL AND RESPONSE PARTNERS WHO HAVE A NEED TO KNOW THE INFORMATION TO PERFORM THEIR DUTIES. IT IS FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. DO NOT DISTRIBUTE BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT GROUPS AS DESCRIBED IN THIS MESSAGE.

Minnesota Laboratory System
Minnesota Department of Health, Public Health Laboratory
601 Robert St. N, St. Paul, MN 55164-0899
651-201-5200

health.mnlabssystem@state.mn.us
www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/idlab/mls/index.html

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5200.