Diagnosis of Chickenpox

by Rick Alan

En Español (Spanish Version)

Your doctor will ask about your symptoms and medical history, and perform a physical examination. Chickenpox is almost always diagnosed on the basis of the telltale rash. Blood and laboratory tests to identify the VZV virus are available for use in questionable cases but are rarely necessary.

**Blood and laboratory tests**—several tests are available that may help confirm the diagnosis of chickenpox, including:

- Skin smear to infer the presence of chickenpox virus by staining
- Skin smear to detect chickenpox viral proteins using immunofluorescence
- Blood test to detect the presence and measure the amounts of antibodies to chickenpox virus

**REFERENCES:**


Previous | Next