
Test Update: COVID-19 Testing Through Regional Pathology Services

Date: March 17, 2020

Dear Regional Pathology Services Clients,

We would like to inform our clients that we have reached capacity for the COVID-9 testing and any specimens will be sent to one of our other partner reference laboratories effective immediately.

This situation is ever evolving and we will do everything in our capacity to ensure that we keep you informed of any changes and that your needs are met. **Specimen requirements remain the same, turnaround time will remain the same. There will be a new code for interfaces.**

A patient demographic sheet is no longer required. If you need a requisition one can be found here: <http://www.reglab.org/reglab/assets/File/Green%20Clinical%20Req%20Fillable.pdf>

New Test Code: FSCOV (<https://www.mayocliniclabs.com/test-catalog/Overview/75578>)

Specimen Requirements:

Preferred specimen: Nasopharyngeal Swab in viral transport media M4, UTM, or VCM.

Also accepted: Other media that is equivalent to viral transport media or universal transport media.

Storage/Transport:

Transport Frozen on dry ice.

Turnaround Time:

Performed daily and reported in 3-4 days.

*If testing is ordered in conjunction with a RESPP, it may take up to 7 days for results to be obtained.

Unacceptable Specimens:

M5 and M6 media are not acceptable. Specimens not in viral transport media. Ambient specimens.

Calcium alginate swabs; cotton swabs with wooden shaft; received refrigerated more than 72 hours after collection; Eswab; swabs in Amies liquid or gel transport M5 and M6 media are unacceptable for testing

When preparing COVID-19 specimens, please make sure to snap off the shaft of the swab at the scored indicator line, leaving the flocked end of the swab inside the collection tube. Securely recap the collection tube. Please work with your collection staff to determine the appropriate procedure for cutting swabs that do not have scored indicator lines. The shaft of the swab should not be in contact with the lid, as this prevents a secure seal. Do not place films, such as paraffin film (parafilm), between the tube and the lid or around the lid of the transport container. Failure to prepare specimens correctly may cause leakage and **will prevent tubes from being processed.**

Interface Build:

<u>OrderCode</u>	<u>OrderName</u>	<u>ResultCode</u>	<u>ResultName</u>	<u>ResultUnits</u>	<u>LOINC</u>	<u>CPT</u>
FSCOV	SARS-COV-2 RNA	CV2SYM	Pt Symptomatic		75325-1	
FSCOV	SARS-COV-2 RNA	CV2SRC	Source		31208-2	
FSCOV	SARS-CoV-2 RNA	COV2	SARS-CoV-2		94309-2	U0002

Order Code	Order Description	AOE Code	AOE Name	Answer	Answer code	question type
FSCOV	SARS-COV-2 RNA	CV2SYM	Pt Symptomatic	Yes/No		Yes/No
FSCOV	SARS-COV-2 RNA	CV2SRC	Source			Freetext

Result Reporting:

Regional Pathology Services will call all detected or positive results following our current critical result reporting procedures.

Due to the nature of these results, we will adjust operationally to manage manual orders in the interim of order codes, getting built in interfaces. If you do not receive your results call client services at 800.334.0459, and results will be manually faxed to your facility.

Confirmations will not be performed unless the FDA or the CDC changes their current recommendations. For more information on confirmation testing, reach out to your local health department.

Billing:

Client bill accounts will be able to bill to insurance April 1st, 2020, for dates of service on or after February 4th, 2020. For specific pricing information, reach out to your account manager.

Patient service centers are unable to collect these samples for patients. If you are unable to collect in your facility, contact your local health department. A list of all LHD's can be found at <http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/LHD>.

Please note that this information changes daily. We will inform clients of any updates as they become available.

If you have any questions or issues with these changes, please contact client services at 402-559-6420 and ask to speak with one of the client coordinators.
