

LABCORP SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

LabCorp Test Available for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

March 8, 2020

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease caused by infection with a new form of coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) that has been detected in multiple locations around the world, including the U.S. COVID-19 has been declared a public health emergency both within the United States and worldwide.

LabCorp's 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), NAA Testing

The LabCorp 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), NAA test [139900] is available for ordering by physicians or other authorized healthcare providers anywhere in the U.S. More information about the test and LabCorp's response to COVID-19 is available at <https://www.labcorp.com/information-labcorp-about-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19> and by reviewing the [press release](#).

The preferred test specimen types are nasopharyngeal (NP) or oropharyngeal (OP) swabs. Other appropriate sample types are NP or OP aspirates or washes, and bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL). All sample types must be obtained by a healthcare provider. More detailed information is available in the test Q&A, which can be found here:

<https://www.labcorp.com/CoronavirusQA>

LabCorp does not currently collect specimens for COVID-19 testing. A healthcare provider is responsible for ordering COVID-19 testing and collecting the test specimens and sending directly to LabCorp. Self-ordered testing for COVID-19 is not available.

Out of consideration for other patients and LabCorp employees, individuals who meet criteria for risk of having COVID-19 should not visit a LabCorp location, and should consult with their healthcare provider for appropriate guidance.

LabCorp can transport, process and test specimens for lab tests other than COVID-19 from patients who are confirmed positive for, or are suspected of having, COVID-19.

LabCorp is also able to perform the CDC 2019-nCoV Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel if needed to meet testing demand. The CDC test is for the presumptive detection of 2019-nCoV RNA in upper and lower respiratory specimens (such as nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swabs, sputum, lower respiratory tract aspirates, bronchoalveolar lavage, and nasopharyngeal wash/aspirate or nasal aspirate), and other authorized specimens collected from individuals who meet CDC criteria for COVID-19 testing. Please review LabCorp's press release for more information.

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About Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) for Healthcare Providers¹

Healthcare providers should order in their discretion in accordance with applicable guidelines, and consult with state/local health authorities as may be required. Decisions on which patients receive testing should be based on the local epidemiology of COVID-19, as well as the clinical course of illness.

Most patients with confirmed COVID-19 have developed fever and/or symptoms of acute respiratory illness (e.g., cough, difficulty breathing). Clinicians are strongly encouraged to test for other causes of respiratory illness, including infections such as influenza.

“Epidemiologic factors that may help guide decisions on whether to test include: any persons, including healthcare workers, who have had close contact with a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patient within 14 days of symptom onset, or a history of travel from affected geographic areas within 14 days of symptom onset.” states CDC guidance.

Currently, diagnostic testing for COVID-19 in the U.S. can be performed by the CDC, certain state and local public health labs, and high complexity laboratories that have validated the COVID-19 diagnostics before the FDA has completed review of their Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) requests.

The CDC has published criteria to assess the patient for consistent symptoms and stated risk factors. If you are either considering a diagnosis of COVID-19, or if you are seeking to rule out COVID-19 in a patient, contact your state or local public health authorities for further instructions or to discuss clinical presentation or exposure history.

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Evaluating and Reporting Persons Under Investigation (PUI). CDC website. Updated March 4, 2020. Accessed March 5, 2020. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>.

For more information about LabCorp’s test for COVID-19, including test methodology, appropriate specimen types, specimen packaging and shipping, and test result reporting, please visit the LabCorp website at:

<https://www.labcorp.com/CoronavirusQA>

For more information about LabCorp’s response to COVID-19, please visit the LabCorp website at:

<https://www.labcorp.com/information-labcorp-about-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

For COVID-19 criteria, visit the CDC website at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/clinical-criteria.html>

For more information from the CDC about COVID-19, visit the CDC website at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>



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