



Cleveland Clinic

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Microbiology Collection Guidelines:

Saline Solution vs. Universal Transport Media (UTM)

Effective as of June 5, 2020

For the latest guidance, refer to the [Detecting COVID-19 section](#) in the [Coronavirus 2019 Intranet Toolkit](#).



Saline Solution (Sodium Chloride 0.9%)

Cleveland Clinic Pharmacy

Universal Transport Medium (UTM)

Copan / BD

Used for:

- Coronavirus 2019**
 - **COVID** (COVDNP)
 - **Caregiver** (CGCOVID)
 - **Pre-Operative** (POCOVID)
 - **Intermediate** (ITCOVID)
Anticipated Late June 2020
 - **Expedited** (EXCOVID)

**Respiratory Pathogen
Rapid Panel (RPRAPD)**

Used for:

- Influenza (Flu)**
 - **Rapid PCR Assay for Flu/RSV** (FLRSV)
 - **Rapid PCR Assay for Flu** (FLUPCR)
- Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV)**
 - **HSV Neonate Surface Culture** (HSVNEO)
 - **HSV 1&2 / VZV Amplification** (HSVZV)
- Mycoplasma Culture (MYPLAS)**
- Respiratory Panel by PCR (RPPCR)**
- Rapid PCR Assay for RSV (RSPCR)**
- Shared Samples**
 - **COVID + Flu/RSV**
 - **COVID + RPPCR**

Store at: Room temperature (ambient)

Transport: Refrigerated (2–8°C)
Transport on ice or cold pack

Order Item: Place a supply request through the EMPPE Mailbox

Store at: Room temperature (ambient)

Transport: Refer to the **Test Directory** for individual test requirements

Order Item: Place a supply request through the EMPPE Mailbox