

Coronavirus 2019

The Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Institute, in conjunction with Medical Operations and Infectious Diseases, has implemented the SARS-CoV-2 assay for qualitative detection of the COVID-19 virus in respiratory specimens from individuals with the appropriate signs and symptoms.

Test Ordering

For patients being evaluated for a respiratory viral illness, order the **COVID-19 Coronavirus Panel**. This order-set automatically includes a test for **FLRSV** (Rapid PCR Assay for Influenza/RSV) and **COVID** (Coronavirus 2019).

The COVID-19 assay is performed in all cases regardless of the FLU and RSV results.

Specimen Collection and Transport

The COVID-19 Coronavirus Panel requires **one specimen collection**: One nasopharyngeal specimen should be collected with a flexible mini-tip flocked swab and placed in UTM. Both the FLU/RSV and COVID tests can be performed **from the same specimen**. Collection devices available include **Lawson # 288576** or **Lawson #494611**.

Transport at refrigeration temperature on cold packs or wet ice.

Swab or Lower Respiratory Specimen Stability	Time
Refrigerated (2-8 °C)	72 hours
Frozen ($\leq -70^{\circ}\text{C}$)	Up to 30 days



Please note: Ensure lid is on tight. Specimen sample is to be packed in a double bag with the requisition in the outermost pocket and hand delivered to your local lab. **Specimens should not be transported through the pneumatic tube system.**

Result Reporting: Laboratory Client Services will notify ordering providers of any positive COVID-19 test results. Cleveland Clinic will report COVID-19 test results to the Ohio Department of Health.

Questions? Contact Dr. Susan Harrington at 216.445.2218, Dr. Gary Procop at 216.444.5879, Karen Mayher at 216.445-1506, or Colleen Starkey at 216.445.3309.