

Testing for Coronavirus at Beaumont Laboratory

Effective Date: 03-12-2020

SARS-CoV-2 is the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19, a respiratory illness that ranges from mild to severe. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure and include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. SARS-CoV-2 testing should only be performed on symptomatic patients. In addition, clinicians **MUST** order influenza testing first, since influenza is currently the most predominant cause of respiratory illness in Michigan.

Specimens to collect (3 swabs)

- Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab- On site testing for Flu/RSV and SARS-CoV-2 (test availability 1 week)
- NP swab- Send out to MDHHS for COVID-19 (if necessary)
- Oropharyngeal (OP) swab- for MDHHS for COVID-19 (if necessary)

Test code

- North/Soft Lab Compendium – Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV), EPIC: LAB7899; Soft: XNCVG
- South/Sunquest Lab Compendium – Order as a miscellaneous Send out test.

Turn-around time for test results a on suspected COVID-19 patient

- Flu/RSV - results in 2-4 hours after arrival in lab.
- SARS-CoV-2 Test- results in 2-3 days
 - If sent to MDHHS, their test request form must be completed by the provider.
 - https://www.michigan.gov/documents/DCH-0583TEST_REQUEST_7587_7.pdf
- Respiratory Virus Panel (RVP, if clinically necessary) - results in 24 hours

COVID-19 Testing at Beaumont

COVID-19 testing will soon be performed at Beaumont Laboratory. The Beaumont Royal Oak laboratory is working 24/7 to bring up testing within the next week. Once this test is available at Royal Oak, positive specimens will be forwarded to MDHHS.

Specimen storage

- Store specimens at 4°C for up to 72 hours after collection.
- If a delay is expected, store specimens at -70°C or lower.

Specimen Transport

All specimens should be sent to the laboratory. If specimens need to be sent to MDHHS the lab will arrange timely transport. Contact Beaumont Lab Customer Service at (248)551-1155, option 5 if STAT transportation is necessary. If you have questions or concerns contact Joan Wehby, Lab Outreach Operations Director, at 313-819-7677.