

COVID-19 TESTING FAQ

March 8, 2020

Does LabCorp offer testing for detecting Coronavirus?

Yes, COVID-19 testing is available as of 3/5/2020.

How do I order COVID-19?

Test ordering information is available at our website

<https://www.labcorp.com/tests/139900/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-naa>

Order Code: 139900

LCLS Name: SARS-CoV-2, NAA

eDOS Name: 2019 Novel Coronavirus (CoVID-19), NAA

Synonyms: COVID-19, 2019 Novel Coronavirus, Wuhan Coronavirus

Ordering must be performed by a physician.

What is the Turn around Time?

Current turn around time is estimated between 3-4 days. In some cases, additional time should be allowed for additional confirmatory or additional reflex tests. Testing schedules may vary.

What sample types are acceptable?

- Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab submitted in viral transport medium, preferred sample type
- Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) or bronchial washings, 2-3 mL collected into a sterile, leak-proof, screw cap sputum collection cup or sterile dry container obtained by physician. Preferred volume 1 mL. Minimum volume 0.2 mL
- Oropharyngeal (OP) swab submitted in viral transport media
- Oropharyngeal (OP) aspirate or washing submitted in a sterile, leak-proof, screw cap sputum collection cup or dry sterile container. Preferred volume 1 mL. Minimum volume 0.2 mL
- Nasopharyngeal (NP) aspirate or washing submitted in a sterile, leak-proof, screw cap sputum collection cup or dry sterile container. Preferred volume 1 mL. Minimum volume 0.2 mL

What supplies do I need to collect for COVID-19?

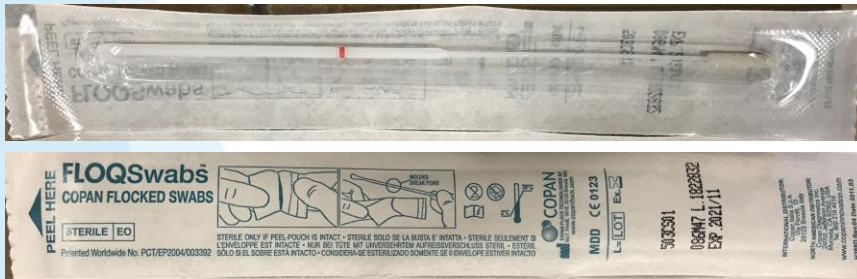
For nasopharyngeal swab collection specimens should be collected using a Nasopharyngeal Dry Flocked Swab that are placed and transported in Universal Transport Media. This will require two consumables. Sample must be collected with a Dry Flocked Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab made with synthetic tips (dycron, rayon, polyester) Recommend using Nasopharyngeal Dry Flocked Swab, Supply Ordering Number: 93307 and placed in Universal Transport Media supply ordering number: 24674. Note: the two swabs are included with the Universal Transport Media, these should be discarded and not used for specimen collection. It is unable to be ordered without the swabs. Only use Nasopharyngeal Dry Flocked swab for COVID-19 specimen collection. Specimen label and biohazard bag are also needed.

The healthcare professional will also need appropriate personal protection equipment.

Nasopharyngeal Dry Flocked Swab Supply order number: 93307



Or



Universal Transport Medium Supply order number: 24674



UTM-RT Transport
(Purple-cap)

What are the storage and shipping requirements?

Samples should be stored frozen. The preferred method of shipment is frozen samples; however, samples can be shipped refrigerated at 2-8 °C and are stable at this temperature up to 72 hours. Room temperature specimens are **not** acceptable at this time. We are actively working on extending the stability of refrigerated samples and hope to have that information as soon as possible.

What is the process for collecting?

Supplies needed

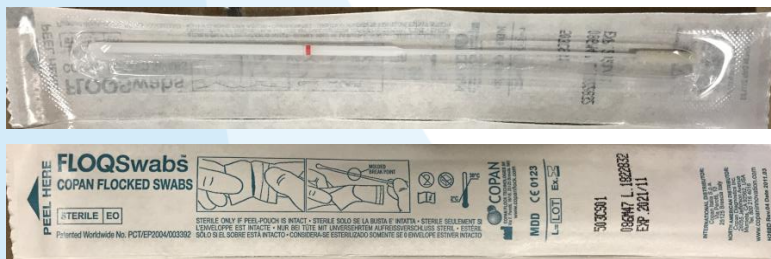
- Nasopharyngeal Dry Flocked Swab or Nasopharyngeal Swabs with synthetic tips (Dacron, rayon, polyester)
- Universal Transport Medium (UTM-RT), different volumes and vendors are ok
- Specimen Label
- Biohazard bag

Collection

- Assemble the supplies needed.
- Insert swab into the nostril parallel to the palate. Leave in place a few seconds to absorb secretions
- Open swab container and remove the swab, taking care not to touch the tip to any surface or lay it down.
- Open the Universal Transport Media. Remove the cap. The two swabs included with the media should be discarded and not used for specimen collection.
- With the patient seated, tilt their head back 70 degrees, support the back of their head with your non-dominant hand.
- Holding the swab in your hand, gently insert Nasopharyngeal (NP) Dry Flocked Swab into the nostril along the floor of the nose extending straight back until the posterior nasopharynx is reached (distance from nostrils to external opening of ear). Leave in place for a few seconds to absorb secretions.
- Place NP swab into the Universal Transport Medium, break (snap) off shaft at the indicator line on the swab. Replace the cap and close the tube



Or



Placed into



- Label sample and place into biohazard bag. Mark that the sample is frozen.
- Freeze specimen and keep frozen.
- Submit sample on one requisition with test code 139900 – COVID-19 on requisition.
- To avoid delays in turn around time when requesting multiple tests on frozen samples, please submit separate frozen specimens for each test requested

Note: there are video procedures available online from the New England Journal of Medicine or The Joint Commission

Who collects the samples?

LabCorp does not currently collect specimens for testing. Test specimens for COVID-19 must be collected by a physician or other healthcare provider.

Individuals seeking testing for COVID-19 should consult with their physician or healthcare provider, who must order the test if they determine the individual meets the testing criteria. Self-ordered testing for COVID-19 is not available.

How do we ship?

Ship Category B. The preferred method of shipment is frozen samples however samples can be shipped refrigerated at 2-8 °C and are stable at this temperature up to 72 hours. Do not send room temperature samples.

What happens if the test results are positive?

Federal guidelines require the testing laboratories to report the result to the CDC as well as state and local agencies. The clinician will also report positives to the state. Confirmation testing is not going to the CDC. Some states are asking for positives to be sent to them for confirmation.

How will ordering physicians be notified of positive results?

Positive results will be treated as a critical result and will be called to the ordering physician or healthcare provider. Indeterminate results and negative results will not be called.

What is the production schedule?

We are currently running the test on three shifts. Testing is continuous flow into our laboratory.

What are causes for rejection?

- Swabs with calcium alginate or cotton tips
- Swabs with wooden shafts
- Refrigerated samples greater than 72 hours old
- Room temperature specimen submitted
- Collection with substances inhibitory to PCR including heparin, hemoglobin, ethanol, EDTA concentrations >0.01M
- Improperly labeled
- Grossly contaminated
- Broken or leaking transport device

What IT information is available for setting up in the interface?

Use path below for Test information needed

<https://westweb.labcorp.com/kb/covid-19>

Note: Link above can only be reached internally. It cannot be reached outside of the LabCorp network

Is the client bill pricing available?

Pricing will be communicated as soon as available

How much does it cost?

The test was mandated for reimbursement by the US government as an essential health service, so all payers and SMS are mandated to reimburse. Billing information (NLA) and related coding is being finalized.

How should I position this testing?

Currently we should not be actively marketing COVID-19 testing. As we understand how our capacity aligns with the national demand we will adjust accordingly.

Messaging we want to send to clients

- For patients that require rapid TAT (within 24 hours), you should be working with your local state lab or academic institution for these high risk patients.
- For non-urgent testing or screening, LabCorp can generally provide results within 3-4 days
- LabCorp continues to work on increasing capacity for COVID-19 testing

Sample Report



Patient Report

Specimen ID: 065-988-9001-0
Control ID:

Acct #: 9000999 Phone: (336) 436-8645 Rte: 00
LabCorp Test Master
Test Account
5450 Millstream Road
MCLEANSVILLE NC 27301



SAMPLE REPORT, 139900

Patient Details

DOB: 01/01/1980
Age(y/m/d): 040/02/04
Gender: F SSN:
Patient ID:

Specimen Details

Date collected: 03/05/2020 0000 Local
Date received: 03/05/2020
Date entered: 03/05/2020
Date reported: 03/05/2020 0000 ET

Physician Details

Ordering:
Referring:
ID:
NPI:

General Comments & Additional Information
Clinical Info: CDCNOT

Ordered Items
SARS-CoV-2, NAA

TESTS	RESULT	FLAG	UNITS	REFERENCE INTERVAL	LAB
SARS-CoV-2, NAA	Not Detected			Not Detected	01

This test was developed and its performance characteristics determined by LabCorp Laboratories. This test has not been FDA cleared or approved. This test has been authorized by FDA under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). This test has been validated in accordance with the FDA's Guidance Document "Policy for Diagnostics Testing in Laboratories Certified to Perform High Complexity Testing under CLIA prior to Emergency Use Authorization for Coronavirus Disease-2019 during the Public Health Emergency" issued on February 29th, 2020. FDA independent review of this validation is pending. This test is only authorized for the duration of time the declaration that circumstances exist justifying the authorization of the emergency use of in vitro diagnostic tests for detection of SARS-CoV-2 virus and/or diagnosis of COVID-19 infection under section 564(b)(1) of the Act, 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-3(b)(1), unless the authorization is terminated or revoked sooner.

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For inquiries, the physician may contact Branch: 800-222-7566 Lab: 336-436-2762

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FINAL REPORT

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