



Technical Bulletin

Testing Availability for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)

TO: Medical Staff and Clients

FROM: Dr. Wesley Kim, MD
Medical Director, DLS and QMC West

Terrie Koyamatsu, M(ASCP) Dr. A. Christian Whelen, PhD Dr. Ana Ortega-Lopez, MD
Manager, DLS Microbiology VP & Technical Director Medical Director QMC Punchbowl,
Microbiology & Molecular North Hawaii and Molokai

DATE: March 10, 2020

SUBJECT: Testing for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) is now available as a send out

DLS is working closely with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to secure approval for local testing for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19). In the interim and effective immediately, DLS can provide the testing service as a send out test to a mainland reference laboratory.

The Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) continues to issue guidelines regarding SARS-CoV-2, including clinical considerations before testing, as information becomes available (<https://health.hawaii.gov/docd/for-healthcare-providers/news-updates/>). DLS encourages providers to follow these guidelines, and those of their respective institutions.

DOH requires that clinicians report suspected cases. If DOH determines a patient should be under investigation (PUI), providers complete a PUI form and Form 81.3, and the specimens can be tested at the State Laboratories free of charge.

It is important to remember that even if a patient is suspected to have SARS-CoV-2, rapid testing for other common organisms remains an integral part of the workup process and should NOT be delayed (https://dlslab.com/documents/bulletins/covid_19_0220.pdf).

Test: SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)
DLS Order code: WILDHMRL/39433
Specimen: Nasopharyngeal swab and/or oropharyngeal swab in UTM (both in same UTM optimal)
Transport/Stability: Refrigerated: 72 HOURS (Send to Central ASAP) or **Frozen at -70°F**
Turnaround time: Routine: 2-3 days
Ordered STAT: Ship at 1500 M-F and 1300 on Saturday/Sunday

DOH Contact Information:

Oahu (Disease Reporting Line) (808) 586-4586, After hours on Oahu (808) 600-3625

Hilo 933-0912, Kauai 984-8213, Kona 322-4877, Maui 984-8213, After hours on neighbor islands (800) 360-2575

Please refer any questions to Terrie Koyamatsu, Manager - DLS Microbiology Lab at 589-5196, or DLS Client Services at 589-5101.

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

<https://health.hawaii.gov/docd/advisories/novel-coronavirus-2019/>

Diagnostic Laboratory Services Inc.

99-859 Iwaiwa Street – Aiea, HI 96701
(808) 589-5100 – www.dlslab.com