

Technical Bulletin

Respiratory Disease Testing Updates

TO: Medical Staff and Clients

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SUBJECT: Respiratory Disease (Influenza AB, COVID-19 & RSV) NAAT Testing Updates

Seasonal respiratory illnesses often present with overlapping symptoms, and multiplex nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT) has become a standard of care for diagnosing respiratory diseases.

To enhance standardization and align with clinician's testing requests, effective December 29, 2025 Diagnostic Laboratory Services, Inc. (DLS) is pleased to announce new test order options for seasonal respiratory viruses at both Hospital and Central Laboratories. These options will be available for inpatient and outpatient testing and are intended to streamline the ordering process.

The following tests are performed on the Cepheid GeneXpert instrument, with an approximate runtime of 45 minutes. Both nasopharyngeal and anterior nasal swabs are acceptable specimen types. Individual respiratory virus tests will remain available; however, clinicians will now have the option to co-order multiple respiratory viruses in a single request.

Test Name*	Test Code
Influenza AB by PCR	6234
COVID-19 by PCR	7179
RSV by PCR	6254
Influenza AB & COVID-19 by PCR	8020
Influenza AB & RSV by PCR	8033
Influenza AB & COVID-19 & RSV by PCR	8019

^{*} Clinicians utilizing an EMR system may receive a prompt or alert when selecting multiple individual respiratory viruses.

Respiratory Panel by PCR (Test Code 6439) and Pneumonia Panel by PCR (Test Code 7212) remain available to hospitals and selected clients.

As we enter the respiratory illness season, the most recent CDC guideline for respiratory virus testing is available at Testing and Respiratory Viruses | Respiratory Illnesses | CDC

DOH Influenza/Respiratory Disease Surveillance reports: https://health.hawaii.gov/docd/disease listing/influenza-flu/

Please refer any questions to Jason Pon, Manager - DLS Molecular Laboratories at 808-441-5469 or DLS Client Services at 808-589-5101.