



Technical Bulletin

Laboratory Testing for Respiratory Agents when COVID-19 may be a Consideration

TO: Medical Staff and Clients

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SUBJECT: Rapid testing for bacterial and viral pathogens from the upper respiratory tract

DOH continues to issue guidelines regarding COVID-19 as more information becomes available. It is important to remember that even if a patient is suspected to have COVID-19 and is classified by current DOH guidelines as a PUI, rapid testing for other common organisms remains an integral part of the workup process and should NOT be delayed.

If you suspect your patient has an upper respiratory infection and there is concern for COVID-2019 infection, contact the DOH immediately for support and guidelines. In addition the following DLS rapid molecular tests should be considered:

RESPIRATORY PANEL BY FILM ARRAY (Test Code: 6439)

Panel screens for **Bacteria:** *Bordetella pertussis*, *Chlamydomphila pneuoniae*, *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*

Viruses: *Adenovirus*, *Coronavirus 29E*, *Coronavirus HKU1*, *Coronavirus NL63*, *Coronavirus OC43*, *Human Metapneumovirus*, *Influenza A*, *Influenza A subtype H1*, *Influenza A subtype H3*, *Influenza A subtype H1-2009*, *Influenza B*, *Parainfluenza Virus 1*, *Parainfluenza Virus 2*, *Parainfluenza Virus 3*, *Parainfluenza Virus 4*, *Human Rhinovirus/Enterovirus*, *Respiratory Syncytial Virus*

Turn around time: Routine: 1 day
 Ordered STAT: 2 hours from receipt in the DLS molecular lab

RAPID INFLUENZA, TYPE A and B (Test Code: 6234)

Turn around time: Routine Only: 1 day
 Ordered STAT: 1 hour from receipt at testing facility

RAPID RSV ANTIGEN (Test Code: 6668) *

Turn-around-time: Routine Only: 1 day
 Ordered STAT: 1 hour from receipt at testing facility

* RSV PCR (Test Code 6254), while preferable over antigen testing, is available but not as a rapid test

NOTE: None of these assays detect Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). COVID-19 testing must be coordinated through The State of Hawaii Department of Health.

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/>

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