

DUHS Respiratory Viral Testing Guidance for the 2020-2021 Winter Respiratory Viral Season

Background: The COVID-19 pandemic is reducing the supply of all non-COVID respiratory viral tests this fall/winter making it necessary to use tests judiciously. This document provides testing guidance for the 2020-2021 respiratory season.

For SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Coronavirus:

- Continue to use existing DUHS SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Coronavirus test orders and protocols
- Other respiratory viral tests (e.g., basic or extended RVP) do **NOT** include SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)

For Influenza, RSV, and other respiratory viruses:

- Many patients tested for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) do not need testing for other respiratory viruses (e.g., asymptomatic patients, minimally symptomatic patients, not Influenza season, etc.)
- For Flu/RSV, limit testing to periods of local activity and symptomatic patients with ≥ 1 of the following
 - New moderate to severe respiratory symptoms
 - High risk for [Influenza complications](#) and/or [RSV severe disease](#)
 - Needing specific antiviral treatment
 - High risk family member
 - Front-line healthcare workers/essential workers and their children, when flu testing impacts ability to return to work/school/childcare
- The Extended Respiratory Viral Panel (eRVP) test will be restricted to specific scenarios and high-risk patients (ED/inpatients ≤ 3 rd hospital day (HD), transplant, significant underlying lung disease) with limited repeats ≤ 7 days
- Test choice depends on urgency, location, and patient population
 - Basic RVP ([Respiratory Virus, Basic Panel, PCR - LAB6807](#))
 - Preferred for routine Influenza and/or RSV testing
 - Same sensitivity and TAT as eRVP; do not order both bRVP and eRVP
 - Does NOT detect SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)
 - Can be done on same sample used for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) PCR
 - Point-of-Care / Rapid Assays ([LAB7512](#), [LAB9794](#), [LAB9471](#), [LAB9812](#), [LAB9563](#))
 - Not available at all DUHS locations
 - Use only when < 2 hr result is required for patient management
 - Requires single-use dedicated swab collection, sample cannot be used for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) PCR
 - Extended RVP ([Respiratory Virus, Extended Panel, PCR - LAB6808](#))
 - **Restricted** to specific scenarios and high-risk patients (ED/inpatients ≤ 3 rd hospital day (HD), transplant, significant underlying lung disease) with limited repeats ≤ 7 days
 - Does NOT detect SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)
 - Can be done on same sample used for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) PCR

See Table on next page for detailed information about each test. Contact the DUHS Clinical Microbiology Laboratory with questions (919) 684-2089.

Footnotes:

*CDC High Risk for Influenza Complications- <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/highrisk/index.htm>

**CDC High Risk for Severe RSV Disease- <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/high-risk/index.html>

Table. DUHS Tests for 2020-2021 Winter Respiratory Viral Season					
	SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Coronavirus Tests		Influenza, RSV POC / Rapid Tests and Basic RVP (NO COVID-19)		Extended RVP** (NO COVID-19)
Method	Point-of-Care / Rapid NAAT	Lab RT-PCR	Point-of-Care / Rapid NAAT	Lab Multiplex RT-PCR	Lab Multiplex RT-PCR
Sensitivity	85-90% (NP swab)	90-95% (NP swab)	70-90% (Nasal swab)	93-99% (NP swab)	93-99% (NP swab)
Virus(es) detected	SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Coronavirus	SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Coronavirus	Influenza OR RSV	Influenza AND RSV	Influenza, RSV, Adeno, Human Metapneumo, Parainfluenza 1-4, and Rhino/Entero virus
Specimen(s)	NP swab only	NP swab, wash or BAL preferred; nasal swab less sensitive	Nasal or NP swab (nasal swab included with test)	NP swab, wash or BAL preferred; nasal swab less sensitive	NP swab, wash or BAL only; nasal swab NOT acceptable[†]
Orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •POC -LAB9992 •DRH/DRaH Rapid Test - LAB9993 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Inpatient Only - LAB9985 •Outpatient - LAB9994 •Administrative - LAB9991 •Preoperative Screen - LAB9990 •Employee Screen - LAB9989 	Influenza: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •DPC/Urgent Care Rapid Assay - LAB7512 •DRH/DRaH, Satellite Lab Rapid Assay - LAB9794 •POC - LAB9471 RSV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •POC RSV - LAB9812 •DRH/DRaH, Satellite Lab Rapid Assay - LAB9563 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Respiratory Virus, Basic Panel, PCR - LAB6807 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Respiratory Virus, Extended Panel, PCR - LAB6808
Acceptable for sample sharing	No sample sharing (direct swab test)	Yes	No sample sharing (direct swab test)	Yes	Yes
TAT	<2 hrs	≤24 hrs	<2 hrs	≤24 hrs	≤24 hrs
Footnotes / Abbreviations: POC – Point-of-Care; NAAT – Nucleic Acid Amplification Test; RT-PCR – reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction; NP – nasopharyngeal; TAT – turn-around-time **eRVP orders are restricted to specific scenarios and high-risk patients (ED/inpatients ≤3rd hospital day (HD), transplant, significant underlying lung disease) with limited repeats ≤7 days †Nasal swabs are less sensitive, not FDA cleared, approved, or validated					