

COVID-19 - Testing Module (3.0)

Order Set Details

Type: **Module**

Version: **3.0**

Topic: **Corona virus infection**

Venue: **Inpatient**

Population: **Adult**

Owner: **OrderSet Department**

Keywords: **COVID-19 , corona virus, coronavirus**

Laboratory

Guidance

Laboratory Testing, COVID-19 ~

Laboratory testing recommendations:

- Positive identification of SARS-CoV-2 (2019-nCoV) RNA by polymerase chain reaction test is considered confirmation of diagnosis
- Routine blood work is not diagnostic, but a pattern of typical abnormalities is emerging in case series of hospitalized patients:
 - Leukopenia may be observed and relative lymphopenia is common, especially in patients with more severe illness
 - Anemia was noted in about half of patients in one series
 - Both elevated and low platelet counts have been seen
 - A prolonged prothrombin time has been reported
 - Levels of D-dimer and fibrinogen may be elevated
 - Elevated levels of lactate dehydrogenase and liver enzymes (ALT and AST) are common
 - Serum procalcitonin levels are usually within reference range; elevated levels have been seen in patients with secondary infection
 - Serum levels of some other acute phase reactants (eg, C-reactive protein, ferritin) are elevated in most patients, as is the erythrocyte sedimentation rate
- Lactate level of 2 mmol/L or higher suggests presence of septic shock

ClinicalKey. (2020). *Coronavirus: novel coronavirus (COVID-19) infection*. [Source](#)

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Contact Local Public Health Department for Positive SARS-CoV-2 Polymerase Chain Reaction results
Real-Time Polymerase chain reaction for SARS-CoV-2; Nasopharyngeal swab, Once

Guidance

Pharyngeal Swab, COVID-19 ~

CDC provides specific instructions for collection and handling of specimens.

Upper Respiratory Tract Swab

- Nasopharyngeal swab is preferred; oropharyngeal swab may be submitted in addition, if obtained. Only synthetic fiber swabs with plastic shafts are acceptable. If both are submitted, they may be placed in the same container
- For nasopharyngeal specimen, insert swab into nostril parallel to palate. Leave swab in place for a few seconds to absorb secretions
- For oropharyngeal specimen, swab the posterior pharynx, avoiding tongue and tonsils

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Real-Time Polymerase chain reaction for SARS-CoV-2; Serum, Once
Real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), sputum , Once ; For SARS-CoV-19