



ALVERNO LABORATORIES

Important COVID-19 Information

Alverno Laboratories will begin sending Coronavirus (COVID-19) samples to LabCorp for physicians that would like to request Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing on their patients as an alternative to sending to the State Laboratories. Alverno is working to bring Coronavirus testing in-house so we can offer faster turnaround for our patients. On March 4th, the CDC announced the following criteria for testing. Clinicians should use their judgment to determine if a patient has signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19 and whether the patient should be tested. Decisions on which patients receive testing should be based on the local epidemiology of COVID-19, as well as the clinical course of illness. Most patients with confirmed COVID-19 have developed fever and/or symptoms of acute respiratory illness (e.g., cough, difficulty breathing). Clinicians are strongly encouraged to test for other causes of respiratory illness, including infections such as influenza.

Ordering Information

Provide the following information using your standard process for test requests:

Test Name - **COVID-19 #139900**

Expected Turnaround Time

3 - 4 days

Specimen

Nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs are preferred. Bronchial washings or bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) are also accepted. All specimens must be obtained by a physician. Specimens will not be collected at patient service centers.

Volume

1 mL

Minimum Volume

0.2 mL

Container

Nasopharyngeal swab in Universal Trans Media (Item # 111005), sterile cup (Item # 153706) .

Send in separate, clearly marked bag, preferably a purple bag (Item # 161403)

Storage Instructions

Refrigerate. Samples are stable refrigerated for 72 hours otherwise freeze.

Causes for Rejection

Swabs with calcium alginate or cotton tips; swabs with wooden shafts; refrigerated samples greater than 72 hours old; room temperature specimen submitted; improperly labeled; grossly contaminated; broken or leaking transport device; collection with substances inhibitory to PCR including heparin, hemoglobin, ethanol, EDTA concentrations >0.01M

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