

Influenza PCR

Test Description	<p>Qualitative assay for the detection of influenza virus nucleic acid (RNA). Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influenza A/H1 • Influenza A 2009/H1 • Influenza A/ H3 • Influenza A/H3v • Influenza A/ H5 • Influenza A/H7 • Influenza B
Test Use	To aid in diagnosis of influenza infection in symptomatic individuals
Test Department	<p>Virology Phone: (860) 920-6662, FAX: (860) 920-6661</p>
Methodology	Real-time Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (rRT-PCR)
Availability	Daily, Monday-Friday
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swab submitted in viral transport media. • Respiratory specimens such as bronchoalveolar lavage, tracheal aspirates, sputum, nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal aspirates or washes. Submit at least 2 mL liquid specimen in a sterile screw capped container. • Cell culture that is confirmed to contain influenza virus.
Collection Kit/Container	<p>Category B shipping box with cold pack To obtain collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.</p>
Collection Instructions	Collect specimens within 3 days of symptom onset. Use only polyester or Dacron-tipped swabs with plastic or aluminum shafts. Do NOT use calcium alginate or cotton-tipped, or wood shafted swabs. Immediately place swabs into viral transport media.
Specimen Handling & Transport	<p>Store specimen at 2-8° C. Specimens should be received within 4 days of collection. Transport with an ice pack coolant.</p>
Unacceptable Conditions	<p>Unlabeled specimen Specimens that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit Improperly collected specimens Specimens submitted at improper temperature</p>
Requisition Form	Clinical Test Requisition (select Influenza PCR)
Required Information	<p>Name and address of submitter (and/or Horizon profile #) Patient name or identifier, date of birth, town of residence (city, state, zip) Specimen source/type, date collected, and test requested Please ensure patient name on the requisition matches that on the specimen.</p>

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