

PUBLIC HEALTH STANDING ORDER FOR COVID-19 LABORATORY TEST: SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR

This standing order is issued by **Jennifer E. Morse, MD, MPH, FAAFP, NPI # 1801805536** and authorizes appropriately trained, licensed, and supervised medical personnel at _____ to collect and send a SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR test for any individual in accordance with the conditions of this order.

TESTING ELIGIBILITY

The following criteria are required for medical personnel at the above-mentioned site to collect a SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR test by this standing order:

- Individual is a resident of the above-mentioned site, with or without symptoms typical of COVID-19 **OR**
 - Individual is an employee of the above-mentioned site, with or without symptoms typical of COVID-19 **OR**
 - Individual is a volunteer or other regular attendant of the above-mentioned site, with or without symptoms typical of COVID-19
- AND**
- Individual (or parent/guardian/custodian) has signed a consent for testing under this standing order

TESTING ORDER

Medical personnel with appropriate training may collect nasopharyngeal or nasal sampling, per instruction of testing laboratory, for SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR.

NOTE: ACTIVATE EMERGENCY SERVICES IF INDIVIDUAL IS HAVING TROUBLE BREATHING, CHEST PAIN OR PRESSURE, NEW CONFUSION, SEVERE WEAKNESS/LETHARGY, CYANOSIS, OR OTHER SERIOUS DISTRESS

1. Preparation to collect a nasopharyngeal swab:
 - a. Ensure needed testing materials are available and have been labeled with the individual's information.
 - b. Ensure appropriate personal protective equipment is available for medical personnel and is used properly: gloves, gowns, surgical mask (or respirator) and eye protection (goggles or face shield).
2. Instructions to collect a nasopharyngeal swab:
 - a. Instruct individual to be seated as needed and to tilt head back slightly.
 - b. Insert swab into nostril parallel to the palate until reaching the pharynx. The swab should reach a depth similar to the distance from the nostril to the front of the ear. Leave the swab in place for a few seconds to absorb secretions.
 - c. Slowly remove swab while rotating it.
 - d. Package swab in transport media as directed by testing laboratory.
3. Store and ship specimens as directed by testing laboratory.
4. For more detailed instructions and video: see *New England Journal of Medicine: How to Obtain a Nasopharyngeal Swab Specimen* <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMvcm2010260>

FOLLOW-UP

1. Positive test results should be reported to the patient within 24 business hours of receipt of the test results and negative test results should be reported to the patient within one week of the receipt of the test result.
 - a. Advise follow up of any questions or concerns with their PCP or other local healthcare provider.
 - b. Ordering provider does not assume any responsibility for the medical care of the tested individual.
2. All results should be communicated with the local health department per public health laws and guidelines.



Jennifer E. Morse, MD, MPH, FAAFP
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