

A message from **Adam Morgan, M.D.** (Laboratory Medical Director | SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital - Madison)



SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) IN HOUSE TEST

Dear Providers, Clinical Staff, Directors, and Managers,

Effective Wednesday August 19, 2020, SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital – Madison Laboratory will be performing SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) testing in house on a new instrument. It will be performed on the Abbott Alinity M which is an automated, high volume instrument with the capacity to run up to 1,000 samples per day under ideal circumstances. The Alinity M utilizes PCR methodology to ensure highly reliable and accurate results. It is important to understand that this is not a rapid testing analyzer for STAT or urgent results. The analyzer is designed to provide higher volume testing, to replace the reliance on reference laboratories. We will continue to have limited rapid PCR testing available on the Cepheid GeneXpert instrument.

Test Name: SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) IN HOUSE

Test Code: COVID LAB; LAB13481

Specimen Requirements: Nasal, NP, or BAL collection using collection kits supplied by the Lab.

- NP will remain the preferred specimen type for inpatient testing.

Expected turnaround time is <24 hours from arrival of specimen at testing Lab.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact:

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Please communicate to colleagues and staff in your area accordingly.

Thank you!

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