

# Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Lab Testing Guidance

March 13, 2020

If testing for COVID-19 will be performed, notify the Infection Prevention & Control (IP&C) department (available 24/7 on call) before collection.

When sending out COVID-19 testing to a commercial lab,  
**1 Nasopharyngeal (NP) Swab\*** must be collected on a  
Viral Transport Media (VTM) swab:

***\*Must be a true nasopharyngeal collection. Do not swab just nares, nose, or nasal cavity.***



VTM (collection device used for RVP)

## To place the order:

1. Select "COVID-19"
2. Specimen source and type will default to Nasopharyngeal and Swab. No other specimens should be ordered.
3. This order is "unit collect" only. Phlebotomy cannot collect specimens for COVID-19.

COVID-19 - 2019 Novel Coronavirus

Priority:

Frequency:

Starting:    At:

First Occurrence: **Today 1544**

[Scheduled Times ^](#)

03/13/20 1544

Class:

Specimen Src:

Specimen Type:

Comments: [+ Add Comments \(F6\)](#)

Reference Links: [1. Test Information](#) [2. Test Catalog](#)

Add-on: No add-on specimen found

## After collection:

Place the collected sample into a biohazard bag and walk them to the Lab within 1 hour of collection time. **Do NOT send specimens through pneumatic tube system.**