

May 2020

To: Clients of the New York Hospital Laboratories (NYHL)

From: NYHL Management

Subject: **IMPORTANT SUPPLY UPDATE**- 2019 Novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV2) Testing

Dear Valued NYHL Client,

The New York Hospital Laboratories continues to process testing requests from outpatient physician's offices for detection of SARS-CoV2 in our laboratory.

Despite a national shortage, we have been able to acquire collection supplies for this test, but from various manufacturers (some kits, others media vials and swabs packaged separately) and with various requirements for storage and use. If ordering these supplies from us, please pay close attention to the instructions of the packaging for these supplies. Improper storage may affect the accuracy of the testing results. On the third page of this memo, we have provided a brief guide to understand the different supplies which you may receive and use for this test.

If utilizing Epic, order “**SARS-COV-2 RT-PCR**” (Epic code: LAB11114). If utilizing a paper requisition, write this indication in the miscellaneous field of the requisition. A variety of nasopharyngeal swabs and medium are acceptable for this test. See attached guide for list of approved supplies. Assure the vial is sealed tightly (**leaking specimens will be rejected**) and adhere the specimen label. Place the vial into specimen bag (do not package with other specimens) and seal it. Place the sealed bag inside of another bag, seal it, and adhere a yellow “TIME SENSITIVE” label over the top of the bag and write “COVID 19” on the label. Fold the requisition so the requisition number barcode is visible and place into the outer pouch of the outermost specimen bag. Proper double bagging as well as folding and placement of the requisition assures the safety of our couriers and allows them to maintain proper tracking of specimens (**improperly packaged specimens will be rejected**). Once packaging is complete, contact Client Services at (212) 746-0670 to request a pick up. If there is no answer, send an email to CSSTAT@nyp.org with “STAT COVID PICKUP” as the subject. Indicate the address of your location, including the floor or suite number and the exact location where the specimen will be left for pickup. Providing the patient's information will also assist us to ensure proper tracking of the test to completion. You **MUST** contact Client Services for a pick up even if your location already has a preschedule pick up time. Please see the second page of this memo for a visual guide of the above information.

In order to make collection supplies available for SARS-CoV2, Respiratory Pathogen PCR Panel, RSV, and Influenza A/B tests are temporarily unavailable in the NYH Laboratories. These orderables have been temporarily inactivated in Epic.

If your office utilizes our K09 Patient Service Center, please be reminded that we are not able to collect swabs from patients. Please do not send patients to this location for venipuncture, urine, or stool drop-offs if they are under suspicion for SARS-CoV-2.

We will continue to provide updates as the situation evolves. Please contact Client Services at (212) 746-0670 for any questions related to laboratory testing. For guidance related to the clinical management of patients with confirmed or suspected SARS-CoV2, please call New York Presbyterian's public COVID Hotline at (646) 697-4000.

Thank you very much for your cooperation. As always, we appreciate your continued support of the Laboratories at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

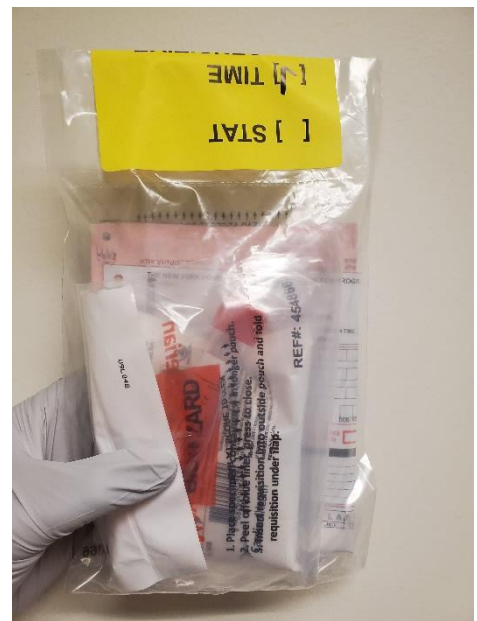
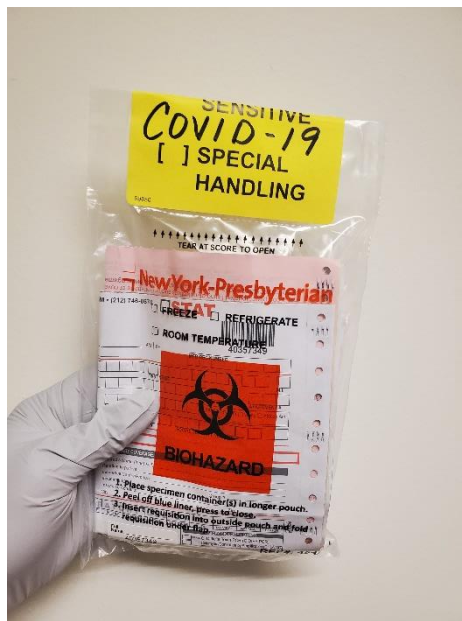
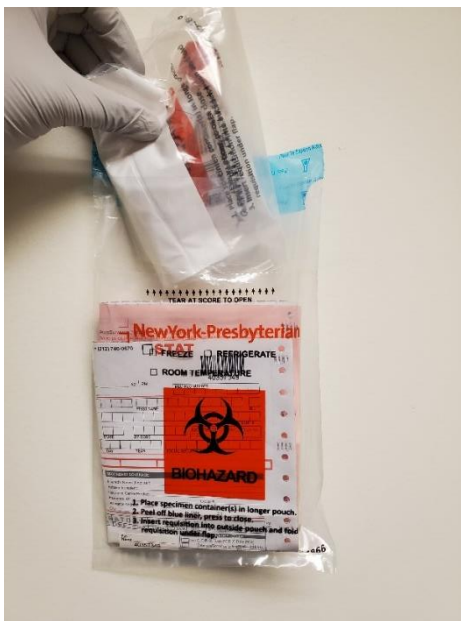
COVID-19 Testing – NewYork Hospital Laboratories Outreach Program

Order: SARS-COV-2 RT-PCR (Epic Code: LAB111114)

Supply: Various transport media/swabs are acceptable. See “[MEDIUM APPROVED FOR COVID-19 PCR TESTING AT NYP-WEILL CORNELL](#)” for more information.







Collect: One nasopharyngeal swab

Packaging: Label the specimen. Place the vial into specimen bag (do not package with other specimens) and seal it. Place the sealed bag inside of another bag, seal it, and adhere a yellow “TIME SENSITIVE” label to the bag and write “COVID 19” on the label. Fold the requisition so the requisition number barcode is visible and place into the outer pouch of the outermost specimen bag.






Transport: Contact Client Services at (212) 746-0670 to request a pick up. If no answer, send an email to CSSTAT@nyp.org with “STAT COVID PICKUP” as the subject. Indicate the address of your location, including the floor or suite number and the exact location where the specimen will be left for pickup. Providing the patient’s information will also assist us to ensure proper tracking of the test to completion.

MEDIUM APPROVED FOR COVID-19 PCR TESTING AT NYP-WEILL CORNELL

	MFR	PART MFR	DESCRIPTION/NOTES	STORAGE
	BD	220531	Kit Trans Viral Univ. 3ml Flex, Red Cap	Room Temperature 2-25 °C
	Copan	305C	Kit UTM-R, red cap	Room Temperature 2-25 °C
	Copan	482C	Eswab Kit Single Flexible Flex Minitip Size Flocked Swab blue cap	Room Temperature 2-25 °C
	Puritan	UT-317	Kit UniTranz-RT 3ml Filled Vial and 6” Sterile Ultrafine Flock swab, red cap	Room Temperature 2-25 °C
	Quidel	99-08015-VCF	VCF VCM with Naso Flocked Swab	Room Temperature 2-25 °C
	Hardy	3C036NHL	UTM RT 3ml Flexible Floqs, red cap	Room Temperature 2-25 °C

MEDIUM and SWAB SEPARATES APPROVED FOR NYP- WEILL CORNELL

	Hardy	R99	Viral Transport Medium, 3ml (swabs are separate)	REFRIGERATE PRE AND POST COLLECTION 2-8 °C
	Copan	501CS01, 551C	Minitip Flocked Swab	
	Quidel	503CS01	Flexible Minitip Swab	

** Please note: Swabs **MUST** be placed into viral medium; no swabs will be accepted alone. As per the CDC, “Do not use calcium alginate swabs or swabs with wooden shafts, as they may contain substances that inactivate some viruses and inhibit PCR testing.”