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## LAB ALERT: New COVID-19 Test Available at Nebraska Medicine

Date: March 26, 2020

Dear Regional Pathology Services Clients,

UNMC and its partner Nebraska Medicine have been working tirelessly to expand the testing capacity for COVID-19 testing in Nebraska. As of today, there are several options for clients for COVID-19 testing and these are listed in the table below:

Test name	Test Code	Performed	Comments
Roche Cobas COVID-19 by PCR- <b>New</b> <b>3/26/20</b>	COV19	Microbiology Lab at Nebraska Medicine	Same Day Results Results by 3p.m if received by 10a.m. <b>Test available for clinic patients, health care workers, and hospitalized patients from regional hospitals across Nebraska</b>
NEcov19 by PCR	NECOV	Molecular Lab at Nebraska Medicine	2 days. <b>Reserved for Nebraska Medicine and Emergency Department patients</b>
SARS-CoV-2 RNA	FSCOV	Mayo Laboratories	3-4 days
Nebraska Public Health Lab COVID Test	NCOVSC	Nebraska Public Health Laboratory	2 days. Requires approval by the local health department. <b>Effective immediately will start accepting Viral Transport Media, Amies Transport Media (e-swabs), or sterile saline.</b>

A new COVID-19 assay is now available on the Roche Cobas 6800 platform beginning March 26, 2020. This assay detects both E- and RdRp-gene targets within SARS CoV-2 and does not detect circulating coronaviruses such as HKU1, NL63, 229E or OC43. This assay has received pre-EUA clearance from the FDA. The kits needed to run this assay are currently on national allocation. Based on the allocation for Nebraska Medicine, the maximum capacity for testing on this assay is 180 specimens/day.

### **Specimen Requirements:**

The only validated specimen for the COV19 assay is a nasopharyngeal (NP) swab in viral or universal transport media.

**Result Reporting:**

The result is qualitative and reported as detected or not detected.

**Regional Pathology Services will call all detected or positive results following our current critical result reporting procedures.**

Due to the nature of these results, we will adjust operationally to manage manual orders in the interim of order codes, getting built in interfaces. If you do not receive your results call client services at 800.334.0459, and results will be manually faxed to your facility.

Confirmations will not be performed unless the FDA or the CDC changes their current recommendations. For more information on confirmation testing, reach out to your local health department.

**Storage/Transport:**

Transport Frozen on dry ice.

**Unacceptable Specimens:**

M5 and M6 media are not acceptable. Specimens not in viral transport media. Ambient specimens. Calcium alginate swabs; cotton swabs with wooden shaft; received refrigerated more than 72 hours after collection; Eswab; swabs in Amies liquid or gel transport M5 and M6 media are unacceptable for testing

When preparing COVID-19 specimens, please make sure to snap off the shaft of the swab at the scored indicator line, leaving the flocked end of the swab inside the collection tube. Securely recap the collection tube. Please work with your collection staff to determine the appropriate procedure for cutting swabs that do not have scored indicator lines. The shaft of the swab should not be in contact with the lid, as this prevents a secure seal. Do not place films, such as paraffin film (parafilm), between the tube and the lid or around the lid of the transport container. **Failure to prepare specimens correctly may cause leakage and will prevent tubes from being processed.**

**Interface Build for all available COVID Tests:**

<u>Roche C6800- Microbiology Assay-New</u>						
OrderCode	OrderName	ResultCode	ResultName	ResultUnits	LOINC	CPT
COV19	COVID 19 BY PCR	COV19S	Coronavirus Source		31208-2	U0002
COV19	COVID 19 BY PCR	COV19R	COVID 19 BY PCR		94309-2	

AOE						
Order Code	Order Description	AOE Code	AOE Name	Answer	Answer code	question type
COV19	COVID 19 BY PCR	COV19S	Coronavirus Source	Nasopharyngeal Swab	NASOPH	List
Molecular Assay						
OrderCode	OrderName	ResultCode	ResultName	ResultUnits	LOINC	
NECOV	COVID 19 BY PCR	NECVSR	Coronavirus Source		31208-2	
NECOV	COVID 19 BY PCR	NECV19	NECOV19 BY PCR		94309-2	
AOE						
Order Code	Order Description	AOE Code	AOE Name	Answer	Answer code	question type
NECOV	COVID 19 BY PCR	NECVSR	Coronavirus Source	Nasopharyngeal Swab	NASOPH	List
				Tracheal Aspirate	TRACA	
				BAL	BAL	
				Sputum	SPUT	
Mayo Laboratories						
OrderCode	OrderName	ResultCode	ResultName	ResultUnits	LOINC	CPT
FSCOV	SARS-COV-2 RNA	CV2SYM	Pt Symptomatic		75325-1	
FSCOV	SARS-COV-2 RNA	CV2SRC	Source		31208-2	
FSCOV	SARS-CoV-2 RNA	COV2	SARS-CoV-2		94309-2	U0002

Order Code	Order Description	AOE Code	AOE Name	Answer	Answer code	question type
FSCOV	SARS-COV-2 RNA	CV2SYM	Pt Symptomatic	Yes/No		Yes/No
FSCOV	SARS-COV-2 RNA	CV2SRC	Source			Freetext

**Billing:**

Client bill accounts will be able to bill to insurance April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, for dates of service on or after February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 with CPT code U0002. For specific pricing information, reach out to your account manager.

Patient service centers are unable to collect these samples for patients. If you are unable to collect in your facility, contact your local health department. A list of all LHD's can be found at <http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/LHD>.

Please note that this information changes daily. We will inform clients of any updates as they become available.

**If you have any questions or issues with these changes, please contact client services at 402-559-6420 and ask to speak with one of the client coordinators.**

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