

SAN MATEO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION

Section: Virology

Test Name: Influenza RT-PCR

Results Available: 3 days Reference Method: RT-PCR Turnaround Time: 1-2 days Limitations: May not detect nucleic acid material in all cases Specimen Collection: Use Dacron, Rayon or polyester swabs on metal or plastic shaft. Do not use Calcium alginate or wooden shaft swabs or gel or agar based transport. Volume/Amount Required: Collection/Preservation: Viral transport media (or Cary-Blair or Stuart but no gel or agar) Causes for Rejection: Specimen not refrigerated. Specimen too old. Improper specimen. Reference Range: No Influenza RNA detected Interpretation: A negative test result does not indicate the patient is not infected. The laboratory test may not be able to detect very low levels of virus. Sample Type: Nasopharyngeal swab or aspirate; broncheoalveolar lavage; pleural fluid; tracheal aspirates; sputum. Preferred Specimen: Nasopharyngeal swab or aspirate Storage Instructions: 2°-8°C, for ≤72 hours; >72 hours store at -70° C. Sample Container: Sample Container:	Test Includes: Real-Time PCR for Influenza A and B		
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	Sample Test Kit:	Availability: Test Monday, Wednesday and Friday	
Diagnostic Information: Detection of Influenza RNA by RT-PCR. Test identifies Types A and B			
and subtypes H1, H3 and H5. Absence of viral RNA does not necessarily indicate lack of infection.			
Specimen Submission Standard Clinical Test Standard Clinical Test			
Request Form: Standard Clinical Test Specimen Handling: Body fluids handled using Propagation of through computer interfece	_		
Request form or through computer interface universal precautions. Transport Tomporatures Keep cold at 2° Shipping Paguirements: Triple contained and		†	
Transport Temperature: Keep cold at 2°-8°C, do not freeze. Shipping Requirements: Triple-contained and packaged to meet requirements of DOT, USPS, PHS		packaged to meet requirements of DOT, USPS, PHS	
and IATA for shipping of clinical specimens.	o C, do not neeze.		
Billing			
CPT Code(s): 87798			
Effective Date: July 1, 2008	• ,	***************************************	