

Allegheny County Health Department

Public Health Laboratory

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New BioFire Film Array Respiratory Panel RP 2.1 Nasopharyngeal Samples to the Allegheny County Public Health Laboratory

Dear submitting clinics and facilities,

Beginning ____, 2024, the Allegheny County Public Health Laboratory will begin accepting clinician-collected Nasopharyngeal specimens (NAAT) for BioFire FilmArray *Respiratory Panel RP 2.1* assaying 22 respiratory pathogens:

<i>Adenovirus</i>
<i>Coronavirus 229E</i>
<i>Coronavirus HKU1</i>
<i>Coronavirus NL63</i>
<i>Coronavirus OC43</i>
<i>SARS_CoV2</i>
<i>Metapneumovirus</i>
<i>Rhinovirus/Enterovirus</i>
<i>Influenza A virus</i>
<i>Influenza A H1 virus</i>
<i>Influenza A H3 virus</i>
<i>Influenza A H1-2009 virus</i>
<i>Influenza B virus</i>
<i>Parainfluenza virus 1</i>
<i>Parainfluenza virus 2</i>
<i>Parainfluenza virus 3</i>
<i>Parainfluenza virus 4</i>
<i>Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)</i>
<i>Bordetella parapertussis</i>
<i>Bordetella pertussis</i>
<i>Chlamydia pneumoniae</i>
<i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i>

Public Health Laboratory did not offer respiratory panel testing previously.

Clinician collected respiratory specimens should be collected with nasopharyngeal swab (Fisher Scientific, Catalog No.NC2582825) in VTM media (Fisher Scientific, Catalog No.23-444-014).

It is essential to remind clinical staff to use proper collection kit and properly fill out the requisition form with the specimen type so that the laboratory can accurately link requested tests with the correct specimen type.

Please see the guidelines for the respiratory sample collection:

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/media/pdfs/2024/09/flu-specimen-collection-guide.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/media/pdfs/2024/09/flu-specimen-collection-poster.pdf>

Please see the following links for sample collection guidelines for all *T. vaginalis* TMA sample sources:

<https://hologicwomenshealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Aptima-Unisex-Swab-Specimen-Collection-Guide.pdf>

<https://hologicwomenshealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Aptima-Multitest-Patient-Vaginal-Collection-Guide.pdf>

<https://hologicwomenshealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Aptima-Urine-Collection-Guide.pdf>

Please share this memorandum with staff or clinicians who may collect and submit these samples to the Allegheny County Public Health Laboratory.

You can contact us for any questions @ 412-578-8070

Allegheny County Public Health Laboratory

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<https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Services/Health-Department/Public-Health-Laboratory>