SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Client Communication

PROMEDICA
PATHOLOGY LABORATORIES
A Partnership of ProMedica and Sonic Healthcare

November 4, 2020 **Effective November 9, 2020**

Effective Monday, November 9, 2020, ProMedica Pathology Laboratories (PPL) will offer the Roche cobas® SARS-CoV-2 & Influenza A/B multiplex assay.

CLINICAL INFORMATION:

The Roche assay is the first in the U.S. to be authorized under the FDA's Emergency Use Authorization process. The assay uses highly sensitive high-throughput real-time RT-PCR technology for simultaneous detection and reporting of SARS-CoV-2 (the causative agent of COVID-19), influenza A, and/or influenza B in upper respiratory specimens. Nucleic acid from one or more of these organisms may be detectable in respiratory specimens during the acute (symptomatic) phase of a viral illness, and testing for SARS-CoV-2 specifically should be offered to individuals suspected of a respiratory viral infection consistent with COVID-19 by a healthcare provider.

Beginning November 9th, PPL is pleased to offer simultaneous testing for influenza and COVID-19 associated viruses out of a single collection. In the 2019-2020 flu season, the CDC estimates that 39-56 million Americans contracted flu, and more than 400,000 required hospitalization. The Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center reports over 9 million COVID-19 cases since January 2020 with daily cases recently peaking in the U.S. at approximately 90,000/day. According to the American Society of Microbiology, coinfection with multiple respiratory viruses is possible. More importantly, both COVID-19 and influenza are spread by virus-laden respiratory droplets which infect lower and upper respiratory epithelium. Both cause fever, cough, anosmia and other respiratory symptoms. However, these infections, COVID-19 and influenza, do not share the same anti-viral therapy, availability of vaccine or implications for public health. Distinction between these viruses may be highly important clinically and in treatment of the patient for any identified infections. Further test details are given below.

Test Information:

Orderable Test Code: **39439**
Test Name: **COVID 19/INFLUENZA A/B, NAAT**

Specimen Requirements:

Sample Type:

- SWAB-Nasopharyngeal (NP), Nasal Turbinate, or Anterior Nares

Container Type:

- Viral Transport Media (VUTM, M4RT, Saline (PBS)

Handling Instructions:

Transport:

Refrigerate
SHIP IN INDIVIDUALLY SEALED BAGS
Send with Requisition & CDC COVID-19 PUI Case Form or COVID-19 Patient History Form.
Label specimens with source and two (2) patient identifiers.

Testing Capacity:

- Testing performed seven days a week.
- Expected TAT is 2-4 days.
- Methodology is REAL-TIME POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION (RT-PCR)

CPT Code:

87636

Result Codes and LOINC Codes:

Result Code:	394391 - INFLUENZA A	LOINC 92142-9
Result Code:	394392 - INFLUENZA B	LOINC 92141-1
Result Code:	394393 - SARS-CoV-2	LOINC 94500-6
Result Code:	394394 - SOURCE	LOINC 31208-2

REFERENCES:

https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/burden/preliminary-in-season-estimates.htm
https://asm.org/Articles/2020/July/COVID-19-and-the-Flu
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-criteria.html

If you have any questions, please contact our Customer Service Department at 419-291-4414 / 833-960-0241 or your Account Executive. Thank you.