



**UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO  
HOSPITAL**

ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

**Swine Flu Specimen Collection and Ordering Information**

***\*Do not use Lawson 10903 Calcium Alginate swabs. This product is lethal to viruses for culture.***

1. The rapid viral culture and PCR assays that we currently offer have the ability to detect the swine influenza strain (as a positive human Influenza A) that is circulating in Mexico and has been detected in a few locations in the US.
2. Although the rapid test may detect the swine flu strain, its sensitivity is currently unknown.
3. Our laboratory tests cannot discriminate between the swine flu and other influenza A strains. Hence, the laboratory will send all specimens positive for influenza A virus to the State Health Department for further characterization.

Test	Test Code	Specimen requirements	Transport	Turnaround Time
Influenza A and B by PCR	FLUABPCR	Nasopharyngeal swab or Nasal wash in sterile container, minimum volume 1 mL.	<b>Internal:</b> Deliver to lab immediately. <b>Offsite:</b> Transport same day, refrigerated or on ice. If delivery is not expected within 24 hours, freeze at -70 degrees C and ship on dry ice.	Specimens must be received in lab by 0700.  Run on Mon-Wed-Fri Results reported next business day.
Rapid Respiratory Viral Culture (includes Influenza A and B; Paraflu 1, 2, 3; Adenovirus; RSV)	C RRV (test pneumonic used to order)	Nasopharyngeal swab* in pink colored M4 transport media (Lawson 40194) - or - Nasal wash in sterile container; preferred volume 1.0 mL, minimum volume 0.5 mL.	<b>Internal:</b> Deliver to lab immediately. <b>Offsite:</b> Refrigerate or on ice. Transport same day. If delivery is not expected within 24 hours, freeze at -70 degrees C and ship on dry ice.	Specimens must be received in lab by 1330.  Results reported within 48 hours. Run every day.

- Current “flocked swabs” (microRheologics tip flocced with nylon fiber) are acceptable for C RRV until wire nasopharyngeal swabs are received. Either swab **must** be transported in the pink colored M4 transport media.
- Wire nasopharyngeal swabs are on order; more information to follow.

Please call Adriana Weinberg M.D. at 720-848-4480 if you have any questions or visit our website at <http://www.uch.edu/for-healthcare-professional/Clinical-Laboratory/index.aspx> for additional information.

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