



**UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO  
HOSPITAL**

ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

**Swine Flu Specimen Collection and Ordering Information  
Updated 4-28-09**

- \*Do not use Lawson 10903 Calcium Alginate swabs. This product is lethal to viruses for culture.**
- \*Do not order Lab's flu AB/rapid test commonly used for flu AB – not yet verified for swine flu.**
- \*Do not use POCT rapid flu tests – not yet verified for swine flu.**

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. 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
Send to UCH lab.  <b>Positive tests sent by Lab to state to verify Swine flu.</b>	Rapid Respiratory Viral Culture (includes Influenza A and B; Paraflu 1, 2, 3; Adenovirus; and RSV)	C RRV (test mnemonic used to order)	Nasopharyngeal wire swab (Lawson 63252) in pink colored M4 transport media (Lawson 40194; keep media refrigerated).	Internal: Deliver to lab immediately. Offsite: 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 until wire nasopharyngeal swabs are received. Either swab **must** be transported in the pink colored M4 transport media.

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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