INFLUENZA SPECIMEN COLLECTION

INFLUENZA PCR

Collect sample as soon as illness is suspected. Check expiration date on viral transport media. Do not use if media is expired. Acceptable specimen types include:

Upper respiratory tract specimens
- Nasopharyngeal swabs [NPS]
- Nasal swabs [NS]
- Nasal aspirates [NA]
- Nasal washes [NW]
- Dual NPS/Throat swabs [NPS/TS]

Lower respiratory tract specimens
- Bronchoalveolar lavage [BAL]
- Bronchial wash [BW]
- Tracheal aspirate [TA]
- Sputum
- Lung tissue

Place swab samples in viral transport media tube. Leave swab in viral transport tube.

Aseptically dilute liquid sample with an equal volume of viral transport media.

Label specimen with Patient Name and Medical Record Number.

Complete Lab Form 96. Make sure Patient Name and Medical Record Number match what is on the transport tube.

NEW SUBMITTERS MUST HAVE SECURE FAX FORM ON FILE BEFORE REPORT RELEASE

For a secure fax form, call Ha Tran at 225-219-5268.

Website

For additional information about Influenza PCR testing, please refer to our website: http://lab.ldh.louisiana.gov
- OPH Laboratory A-Z Clinical and Biological Test List
- Influenza virus, Real-time PCR, Detection and Characterization

Shipping

Place samples in an insulated container and ship Category B with completely filled out Lab Form 96.

Ship for Overnight delivery: If specimens will be received within 72 hours from collection, ship refrigerated. If specimens will be received greater than 72 hours from collection, freeze specimens at your facility and ship on dry ice.

If sample is frozen, please document a freeze date and time on the Lab Form 96

Ship to: LDH OPH Lab—Molecular/Virology
1209 Leesville Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225-219-5263