COVID-19 - Testing Module (2.0)

Order Set Details

- **Type:** Module
- **Version:** 2.0
- **Topic:** Corona virus infection
- **Venue:** Inpatient
- **Population:** Adult
- **Owner:** OrderSet Department
- **Keywords:** COVID-19, corona virus, coronavirus

Laboratory

Guidance

**COVID-19 Laboratory Testing ~**

Laboratory testing recommendations:

- Positive identification of SARS-CoV-2 (2019-nCoV) RNA by polymerase chain reaction test is considered confirmation of diagnosis.
- Routine blood work is not diagnostic, but a pattern of typical abnormalities is emerging in case series of hospitalized patients:
  - Leukopenia may be observed and relative lymphopenia is common, especially in patients with more severe illness.
  - Anemia was noted in about half of patients in one series.
  - Both elevated and low platelet counts have been seen.
  - A prolonged prothrombin time has been reported.
  - Levels of D-dimer and fibrinogen may be elevated.
  - Elevated levels of lactate dehydrogenase and liver enzymes (ALT and AST) are common.
  - Serum procalcitonin levels are usually within reference range; elevated levels have been seen in patients with secondary infection.
  - Serum levels of some other acute phase reactants (e.g., C-reactive protein, ferritin) are elevated in most patients, as is the erythrocyte sedimentation rate.
- Lactate level of 2 mmol/L or higher suggests presence of septic shock.


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Contact Local Public Health Department for Positive SARS-CoV-2 Polymerase Chain Reaction results
Real-Time Polymerase chain reaction for SARS-CoV-2; Nasopharyngeal swab, Once

Guidance

Pharyngeal Swab, COVID-19 ~

CDC provides specific instructions for collection and handling of specimens.

Upper Respiratory Tract Swab

- Nasopharyngeal swab is preferred; oropharyngeal swab may be submitted in addition, if obtained. Only synthetic fiber swabs with plastic shafts are acceptable. If both are submitted, they may be placed in the same container
- For nasopharyngeal specimen, insert swab into nostril parallel to palate. Leave swab in place for a few seconds to absorb secretions
- For oropharyngeal specimen, swab the posterior pharynx, avoiding tongue and tonsils


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Real-Time Polymerase chain reaction for SARS-CoV-2; Serum, Once
Real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), sputum, Once; For SARS-CoV-19