

November 30, 2017

Attention: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Hospitals - Emergency Rooms / Infection Control / Occupational Health, Walk-In Clinics, Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, EMS, Corrections

RE: Respiratory Viral Testing Algorithm in Institutional Settings

According to *Public Health Ontario's Respiratory Viral Testing Algorithm for the Fall and Winter of 2017-2018*, respiratory viral testing will not be done for individuals seeking care in Emergency Rooms or Ambulatory Care Settings, **unless the individual resides in an institutional setting (e.g. long-term care homes, retirement homes, etc.).**

If your client lives in an institutional setting and you wish to request respiratory viral testing, **please use the Public Health Ontario General Requisition and check institution under Patient Setting on the requisition.** If patient setting is not provided, the sample will NOT be tested.

<small>determining immunity to HCV is currently available)</small>	
<p>4 - Specimen Type and Site</p> <input type="checkbox"/> blood / serum <input type="checkbox"/> faeces <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> nasopharyngeal <input type="checkbox"/> sputum <input type="checkbox"/> urine <input type="checkbox"/> vaginal smear <input type="checkbox"/> urethral <input type="checkbox"/> cervix <input type="checkbox"/> BAL <input type="checkbox"/> other - (specify) _____	<p>Patient Setting</p> <input type="checkbox"/> physician office/clinic <input type="checkbox"/> ER (not admitted) <input type="checkbox"/> inpatient (ward) <input type="checkbox"/> inpatient (ICU) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> institution
<p>5 - Reason for Test</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> diagnostic <input type="checkbox"/> immune status Date Collected: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> needle stick <input type="checkbox"/> follow-up	<p>Clinical Information</p> <input type="checkbox"/> fever <input type="checkbox"/> gastroenteritis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> respiratory symptoms

Public Health Ontario's General Requisition form can be accessed here:

https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/eRepository/General_test_fillable_requisition.pdf

Public Health Ontario's Respiratory Viral Testing Algorithm for the Fall and Winter of 2017-2018 Lababstract can be accessed here:

https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/eRepository/LAB_SD_121_Respiratory_Viral_Testing_Algorithm_and_Enhanced_Surveillance_Update.pdf

NOTE: For easier access to the above web links, visit the Health Unit website (www.hkpr.on.ca) for electronic copies of all current – and previous – editions of *FAX Facts*. Go to the 'Resources & Forms' header at the top of the web page, and use the drop-down menu to click on the 'Health Care Professionals' section (a link to FAX Facts is posted there). A direct link is also provided below: www.hkpr.on.ca/ResourcesForms/HealthCareProfessionals/FAXFacts.aspx

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