



Countywide Services Agency

Department of  
Health and Human Services

Division of Public Health  
Glennah Trochet, M. D.  
County Health Officer

County of Sacramento

Terry Schutten, County Executive  
Penelope Clarke, Agency  
Administrator  
Jim Hunt, Department Director

Public Health Laboratory  
Sandra H. Tougaw  
Laboratory Director

## Respiratory Virus Surveillance Testing 2005—2006 Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory

### Agents Screened:

Rapid tissue culture ID: Influenza A and B, Adenovirus, RSV, Parainfluenza 1, 2, 3 from patients hospitalized with unexplained pneumonia, ARDS or severe respiratory illness.

PCR tests: Influenza A & B, Flu A-H1, H3, H5 typing and SARS virus

### Specimen Required:

Nasal aspirates or nasal washes are preferred. Nasopharyngeal swabs and throat swabs may not contain as many viral particles but can be tested. Please be sure to use only Dacron tipped swabs with a plastic or aluminum shaft. Do not use calcium alginate swabs as this interferes with molecular testing.

### Transport:

Specimens should be put into viral transport media and delivered to the laboratory on ice within 48 hours. Freeze the specimen if transport will be delayed beyond 48 hours.

### Testing Turn Around Time:

Rapid tissue culture testing followed by monoclonal fluorescent antibody identification allows for reactive results to be available within 24 to 48 hours. Negative specimens will be held 72 hours.

### Specimen Requisition Form:

Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory Universal Requisition Form Clearly indicate the submitting facility's name and Infectious Disease Department fax number so that results can be returned quickly. Indicate that you are requesting Respiratory Virus Screening or Flu Screening.

### Result Reporting:

The laboratory will fax results to submitter's Infectious Disease Department as soon as they become available. Contact your facility contact point for results.

### Laboratory Location:

Deliver specimens to: Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory  
4600 Broadway, Suite 2300  
Sacramento, CA 95820

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