

Test Available: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Announcement Date: March 16, 2020

(Billing information revised per CMS Update, April 14, 2020)

Effective today, March 16, 2020, PathGroup will begin to offer testing for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). This test is to be ordered only for individuals who meet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) clinical and/or epidemiological criteria for testing. Because this criteria may change as more is learned about the virus, please refer directly to the CDC website for the most up-to-date patient testing criteria:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>

PathGroup respectfully asks that you do not send patients with suspicion of COVID-19 infection to PathGroup Phlebotomists or Patient Service Centers for specimen collection for COVID-19 testing. Healthcare providers should collect nasopharyngeal swab specimens from patients under investigation in accordance with CDC guidance.

PathGroup Phlebotomists, Patient Service Centers and PathGroup Client Services can provide guidance on how to package and prepare the specimen for transport.

Additional CDC resources for healthcare professionals can be found at

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/index.html>

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019	
TEST CODE	COVID19 <i>For clients with EHR ordering interfaces who would like to order COVID19 electronically, please contact PathGroup IT at help@pathgroup.com to request the new test code be added to your EHR system.</i>
TEST NAME	SARS-CoV-2, RNA
SPECIMEN COLLECTION	1 Universal Viral Transport Swab: Nasopharyngeal collection (PathSupply Description: BD Universal Swab, Item #13696) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place inoculated swab in supplied red top tube containing viral transport media. Break off swab shaft at score line and close cap tightly with swab remaining in the tube. DO NOT POUR OFF MEDIA.
SPECIMEN TRANSPORT	Frozen (-20°C)
SPECIMEN STABILITY	Room temperature: Unacceptable Refrigerated (2-8°C): 72 hours; Frozen thereafter
TURNAROUND TIME	2-3 days (TAT may be impacted by high volume)
BILLING INFORMATION	CPT 87635; HCPCS U0003

For additional information about COVID-19 testing from PathGroup, please visit the online Directory of Services at <https://pathconnect.pathgroup.com/testmenu/#/searchresults/covid19>.

**For further questions, please contact Client Services
at 1-888-4PG-LABS (1-888-474-5227).**