



MEMO

To: All Regional Medical Laboratory Clients

From: Cindi Starkey, M.D., Ph.D., Chief of Molecular Pathology
Gerald C. Miller, Ph.D., Chief of Microbiology & Immunology
Sonja Matthews, MT (ASCP), Director, Clinical Operations

Date: March 7, 2011

Subject: Molecular Testing for Respiratory Pathogens

Effective immediately, molecular testing by PCR (polymerase chain reaction) is available at Regional Medical Laboratory (RML) for common respiratory viruses such as **Adenovirus, Influenza A, Influenza B and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)**. Until now, these pathogens have either been sent to an outside reference laboratory for detection or have been evaluated at RML as part of respiratory virus screening panels by Direct Fluorescent Antibody (DFA) testing. PCR detection of the pathogen's RNA or DNA will provide a **more sensitive and specific** method when compared to the DFA.

<i>Respiratory Viral Panel PCR</i>	<i>Order Name:</i>	<i>Test Number:</i>	<i>CPT Code:</i>
Viral Respiratory Panel by PCR	VRESP PCR	5568555	87798x4
Influenza A and B, Adenovirus, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)			

<i>Individual Virus PCR</i>	<i>Order Name:</i>	<i>Test Number:</i>	<i>CPT Code:</i>	<i>Ref. Range:</i>
Influenza A Detection by PCR	FLU A PCR	5565570	87798	Not detected
Influenza B Detection by PCR	FLU B PCR	5565580	87798	Not detected
Adenovirus Detection by PCR	ADENOV PCR	5565555	87798	Not detected
RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) PCR	RSV PCR	5565560	87798	Not detected

Specimen:

- The preferred specimen is mini-Flocked Swab in Universal Transport Media (UTM) (Comes as a kit: RML Supply# 50775), BD Viral Transport Media (VTM) or M4.
- Also acceptable 3mL(1mL) BAL or NP/nasal/tracheal aspirate in a sterile leak-proof container.
- Keep all specimens **refrigerated**. Freeze if testing will be delayed more than 48 hrs.
- Stability: Room temperature only 4 hrs, refrigerated 48 hrs, frozen 2 wks.
- Unacceptable if specimen is kept at room temperature for more than 4hrs.

Performed: Monday, Wednesday & Friday; near future Monday through Friday

Reported: Same or following day

If you have questions, please contact Cindi Starkey, M.D., Ph.D., Chief of Molecular Pathology, Gerald C. Miller, Ph.D., Chief of Microbiology and Immunology, or Sonja Matthews, MT (ASCP), Laboratory Director of Clinical Pathology at 918-744-2553 or 800-722-8077.