

PDL COVID-19 Test Options Update

April 4, 2022

UPDATES

- **Variant Detection:** Pacific Diagnostic Laboratories (PDL) has confirmed that the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) molecular nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) methods in use by PDL detect the circulating variants including the Omicron BA.1 and BA.2.
- **Federal HRSA COVID-19 uninsured program:** The HRSA COVID-19 program is no longer available. Uninsured patients will now receive a bill for testing. Refer to PDL notice sent March 21, 2022.
- **NEW COVID-19 PCR (NAA) Test Option:** PDL is now offering an orderable option for when a COVID-19 RT-PCR or PCR test is *specifically* needed.
- **Direct Purchase Option:** PDL in collaboration with Cottage Urgent Care is offering a direct purchase COVID-19 RT-PCR.

COVID-19 MOLECULAR NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION TEST (NAAT) OPTIONS

Lab Code:	Test Name:	Acceptable Source(s):	Collection Kit:
LAB10789	COVID-19 (NAA)	Nasal or Nasopharyngeal	UTM/VTM or Saline
LAB10941	COVID-19 SALIVA (NAA)	Saliva (min 1 mL)	Saliva
LAB10960	COVID-19 PCR (NAA)*	Nasal or Nasopharyngeal	UTM/VTM or Saline
LAB10820	INFLUENZA A AND B WITH COVID-19 BY PCR	Nasal or Nasopharyngeal	UTM/VTM or Saline
LAB8740	RESPIRATORY PANEL WITH COVID-19 BY PCR**	Nasopharyngeal	UTM/VTM or Saline

***COVID-19 PCR (NAA):** For scenarios where RT-PCR/PCR is specifically required.

****RESPIRATORY PANEL INCLUDES:** VIRUSES • Adenovirus • Coronavirus HKU1 • Coronavirus NL63 • Coronavirus 229E • Coronavirus OC43 • Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) • Human Metapneumovirus • Human Rhinovirus/Enterovirus • Influenza A • Influenza A/H1 • Influenza A/H3 • Influenza A/H1-2009 • Influenza B • Parainfluenza Virus 1 • Parainfluenza Virus 2 • Parainfluenza Virus 3 • Parainfluenza Virus 4 • Respiratory Syncytial Virus BACTERIA • Bordetella parapertussis • Bordetella pertussis • Chlamydia pneumonia • Mycoplasma pneumonia Note: This test has received FDA De Novo authorization.

COVID-19 ANTIBODY TEST OPTIONS

Lab Code:	Test Name:	Acceptable Source(s):	Collection Kit:
LAB10910	SARS-COV-2 SPIKE ANTIBODY, SEMI-QUANTITATIVE, POST VACCINATION	Serum or Plasma (1 mL)	Gold Top (SST) or Red Top or Green Top
LAB10741	SARS-COV-2 TOTAL ANTIBODIES WITH CONFIRMATION, POST INFECTION	Serum or Plasma (1 mL)	Gold Top (SST) or Red Top or Green Top

PDL COVID-19 COLLECTION SITES

PDL COVID-19 COLLECTION SITES are available **by appointment only** at Goleta and Santa Ynez.

- A test order is required from an authorized provider for the State of California.
- Appointments can be scheduled online at www.pdllabs.com or by calling 805-879-8100 (toll-free 866-591-4610).
- The standard collection source will be **nasal** unless nasopharyngeal (NP) is specified or required for the test.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT PDL CLIENT SERVICES AT 805-879-8100

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does NAA or NAAT stand for?

NAA = Nucleic Acid Amplification

NAAT = Nucleic Acid Amplification Test

What kind of testing is NAAT?

NAAT is a type of viral diagnostic test. NAATs detect genetic material (nucleic acids). The NAATs designed for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) specifically identify RNA (ribonucleic acid) sequences that comprise the genetic material of the virus.

The NAAT procedure works by first amplifying – or making many copies of – the virus’s genetic material that is present in a person’s specimen. Amplifying or increasing the copies of nucleic acids enables NAATs to detect very small amounts of SARS-CoV-2 RNA in a specimen, making these tests highly sensitive for diagnosing COVID-19. In other words, NAATs can reliably detect small amounts of SARS-CoV-2 and are unlikely to return a false-negative result of SARS-CoV-2.

Is PCR the same as NAAT?

Polymerase chain reaction, or PCR, is a method of performing a NAAT.

NAATs can use many different methods to amplify nucleic acids and detect the virus, including but not limited to:

- Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR)
- Isothermal amplification including:
 - Nicking endonuclease amplification reaction (NEAR)
 - Transcription mediated amplification (TMA)
 - Loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP)
 - Helicase-dependent amplification (HDA)
 - Clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats (CRISPR)
 - Strand displacement amplification (SDA)

When should the LAB10960 COVID-19 PCR (NAA) PCR test be ordered vs. LAB10789 COVID-19 (NAA)?

This test is being offered as a direct orderable for situations where a patient or individual is **required to specifically have a RT-PCR or PCR** COVID-19 test. Scenarios may include international travel or for return to school clearance.

Please note: We recommend that regular verification of testing requirements be done before obtaining testing as changes occur frequently.

Can I order the PCR test for all COVID-19 test requests?

We are asking that this test only be used when **RT-PCR/PCR is specifically required**. This is due to limited testing capacity for the PCR method. Our primary method for COVID-19 testing (LAB10789 COVID-19 (NAA)) is a NAAT using the TMA amplification method. Both methods have a very high level of sensitivity and are FDA EUA authorized.

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