WA - IN HOME SERVICE LINES COVID19 – Testing Algorithm

Provider orders COVID-19 testing for symptomatic patients*

Nurse must wear the following PPE:
Gloves
Gown
Procedure mask
Eye protection

Use current ministry practice for completing Lab Corp requisition – under "Additional Test Codes" - write COVID19 test code 139900

Specimen Requirements: Nasopharyngeal/oropharyngeal swab in Universal Transport Media

Specimen is collected

"REFRIGERATED" needs to be written on the specimen bag with black marker. Place sample and requisition following normal protocol in bag along with the ice pack. ****SAMPLES ARRIVING AT LAB CORP WITHOUT ICE ARE CONSIDERED TO BE AT ROOM TEMP AND WILL NOT BE PROCESSED****

Reusable ice packs – need to be considered one time use and disposed of. They can't be **refrozen**.

Bagged sample needs to be placed in insulated bag (red bag) for transport to nearest "manned" Lab Corp location if possible.

Blood draw insulated bags (red bags) must be disinfected after transporting COVID19 sample with an appropriate EPA registered disinfectant. Bagged lab samples can be co-mingled in the insulated bag as long as each sample is individually bagged **and** remains viable at a refrigerated temp.

If a drop box must be used. Place sample along with icepack in drop box. Call Lab Corp Customer Service for pickup. Tell them it is for a refrigerated COVID19 sample and the location of the box.

Expected TAT 3-5 days
Likely to increase as testing volumes increase

Are results positive?

Yes → Follow ministry specific protocols (i.e. notify provider, etc.) plus notify local health department

No → Follow ministry specific protocols. Discuss plan with provider

*Symptomatic Patients

- Fever >=100.4
- Cough
- Shortness of breath