Florida HEALTH
Bureau of Public Health Laboratories

Test Menu

TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
Test Name	Influenza A/H5 rRT-PCR
Other Name (s)	Avian Influenza
Analyte(s)	Influenza A/H5, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)
Test Code	9190
Lab location	Jacksonville and Tampa
Department	Virology
Prior Authorization	Requires prior approval from Regional Epidemiology and notification to the testing lab. Contact local County Health Department to start the process for approval.
Required Forms	Test Requisition Form, DH1847. Medical History needed (i.e., dates of influenza vaccination, onset date, collection date, travel history and symptoms.)
Specimen Sources	**Individuals with respiratory symptoms:** -Nasopharyngeal swab (NP) in viral transport media (VTM) or universal transport media (UTM) tubes -Combined nasal swab (NS) and oropharyngeal swab (OP)(ie, two swabs in one VTM or UTM tube) **Individuals with Conjunctivitis** (with or without symptoms) -Conjunctival swabs (please collect two swabs, each in separate VTM or UTM tubes) ***This must be collected with paired NP swab. *** -Nasopharyngeal swab (NP) in VTM or UTM tube. **Individuals with severe respiratory disease** (also collect lower respiratory tract specimens) -Endotracheal aspirate (in sterile leak-proof container) -Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (in sterile leak-proof container)
Collection Media	Dracon swab in Viral transport media (VTM) or universal transport media (UTM) tubes
Minimum Volume	300 μL (0.3 mL), 1mL preferred
Supplemental Information- Special Specimen Preparation	N/A
Storage Conditions	Refrigerate specimens at 2-8°C or frozen at ≤-20°C after collection
Specimen Labeling	-Specimen must be labeled with at least two unique patient identifiers, Ex: Name and DOB. -The collection date and time if submitting multiple specimens. -**Information on the specimen must match the requisition**
Packaging and Shipping Instructions	Specimens must be shipped between (2-8°C) or frozen (≤-20°C) on dry ice. Separate multiple specimens into different bags (preferred).
Test Methodology	Real-time reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) assay
Turnaround Time	48 hours
Result Indicator	Presumptive Positive, inconclusive, or not detected for Influenza A/H5
Unsatisfactory Specimen	Swabs with calcium alginate or cotton tips or with wooden shafts. Unlabeled or mislabeled specimens, insufficient quantity for testing, incorrect collection tube/transport media, grossly contaminated specimen, disparity between ID on sample and paperwork, improper collection, storage or transport of specimen, no test requested, test requested is not performed. If required, the absence of patient history. If required, the lack of patient history that is compatible with test requested. Test order cancelled by provider. Tube broken or leaked in transit, etc.
Interferences and Limitations	Swabs with calcium alginate or cotton tips or with wooden shafts, can result in inactivation of some viruses and inhibit some molecular assays
Additional Information & Notes	Conjunctival swabs are not verified at BPHL as an acceptable specimen type at this time, therefore results will be reported with a disclaimer indicating results CANNOT be reported to the patient and CANNOT be used for diagnosis. The results are ONLY for public health purposes. When the verification is completed, the disclaimer will be removed.
Reference Range	N/A
Reference Lab	CDC
Reflex testing	N/A