



## 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV): Update on Testing January 29, 2020

### Current guidance from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)

1. Providers concerned about possible 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) infections should contact their **local health departments (LHD)**.
  - a. [https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/ph/bureaus/laboratory/communicable\\_disease\\_cont\\_acts/](https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/ph/bureaus/laboratory/communicable_disease_cont_acts/)
2. If the person has any respiratory symptoms AND travel to Wuhan City, China in the last 14 days or contact in the last 14 days with an ill person who was in Wuhan City, then the Local Health Department should contact the **CDC Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at 770-488-7100 24/7** to consult with CDC regarding whether testing for the novel coronavirus is warranted. If testing is not warranted, local health departments can decide not to further investigate the person.
  - a. The definition of a person under investigation (PUI) continues to change, but the current definition is:
    - i. Persons with fever **and** lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) fever, and one of the following:
      1. A history of travel from Wuhan City, China in the last 14 days before symptom onset
      2. Contact with a PUI while the person was ill in the last 14 days before symptom onset
    - ii. Persons with fever **or** lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) fever, and close contact with an ill laboratory-confirmed 2019 nCoV patient in the last 14 days.
3. If a decision is made to test, the LHD should email a summary of the patient's information to [novelvirus@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:novelvirus@cdph.ca.gov), as soon as possible. The summary should include the following:
  - a. The patient's name and date of birth
  - b. A brief summary of the patient's symptoms, travel history, and any other relevant clinical or exposure information.
  - c. Testing decision made by CDC
  - d. CDC assigned ID number, if available and testing will occur
4. All jurisdictions should enter any case for which CDC has recommended testing for novel coronavirus into CalREDIE using the "Novel Coronavirus 2019 (nCoV-2019)" condition as soon as possible, and no later than 24 hours after identification.
5. The Patient and Case Investigation system tabs AND the Person Under Investigation tab are ALL available in CalREDIE. Please enter all available information as you receive it and ensure the record is up-to-date in order to facilitate

### **Based on this guidance, the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Lab will follow the plan outlined below:**

1. County Communicable Disease/Epidemiology will be fielding calls related to suspected 2019-nCoV illnesses.
  - a. [https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/ph/bureaus/laboratory/communicable\\_disease\\_cont\\_acts/](https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/ph/bureaus/laboratory/communicable_disease_cont_acts/)
2. Communicable Disease will then contact the CDC to determine if testing is warranted.
3. If testing is approved, Communicable Disease will notify:
  - a. The submitter, and provide the CDC assigned ID number
  - b. The Public Health Laboratory, and provide the CDC assigned ID number
  - c. The CDPH at [novelvirus@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:novelvirus@cdph.ca.gov)
  - d. CalREDIE

### **Specimen submission and requirements**

1. Once approval is obtained, submitters should notify Communicable Disease and/or the Public Health Laboratory ([707] 784-4410 when specimens will be available for pickup.
2. Currently, the recommended specimens are:
  - a. Upper respiratory: Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab in VTM **and** oropharyngeal (OP) swab in viral transport medium (VTM) or universal transport medium (UTM)
  - b. Lower respiratory (if clinically indicated): Bronchial lavage, tracheal aspirate, or sputum (not induced sputum) in a sterile container
  - c. Serum: Collected in a tiger top or red top tube
3. For additional information on specimen collection and storage refer to: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/guidelines-clinical-specimens.html>
4. A specimen requisition form must accompany all specimens submitted to the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Laboratory:
  - a. <https://www.solanocounty.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?blobid=30252>
  - b. It is critical that providers document travel history and symptoms on the requisition form.

### **Collection kits**

The laboratory is able to provide collection kits upon request. These kits will contain the following:

1. 2 VTM or UTM collection kits, which include synthetic swabs with plastic shafts: for upper respiratory specimens
2. 1 sterile container: for lower respiratory specimens if clinically indicated
3. 2 tiger top or red top tubes: for serum collection

### **Additional resources can be found at:**

1. [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
2. [www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov)